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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of Thomas Patrick Hardy of Hinsdale, who
4 passed away on March 27, 2025; and

5 WHEREAS, Thomas Hardy was raised in Chicago's Beverly
6 neighborhood, graduating from Brother Rice High School and
7 later from Ripon College in Wisconsin, where he was a proud
8 member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity; and

9 WHEREAS, Tom Hardy continued his education at Northwestern
10 University, where he graduated from the Medill School of
11 Journalism; and

12 WHEREAS, Tom Hardy had a long, distinguished career in
13 journalism, government, and public affairs; and

14 WHEREAS, Tom Hardy began his career in journalism at the
15 Chicago Tribune, first as a copy clerk and later as a political
16 writer and columnist, where his work included traveling with
17 candidates to cover three presidential campaigns; and

18 WHEREAS, Tom Hardy also served as a frequent analyst for
19 public affairs programming on WGN-TV and WTTW-TV during his
20 years as an active private-sector journalist; and

1 WHEREAS, Tom Hardy became press secretary for Governor Jim
2 Edgar after two decades at the Chicago Tribune; and

3 WHEREAS, Tom Hardy then became a managing director of
4 public affairs for Burson-Marsteller, a global public
5 relations firm, before joining the University of Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, Tom Hardy had recently retired from the
7 University of Illinois after nearly two decades, rising to the
8 rank of chief spokesman and executive director of the Office
9 of University Relations for the University of Illinois; and

10 WHEREAS, Tom Hardy was an athletic man and a sought-after
11 partner for golf tournaments; he enjoyed playing soccer and
12 racquetball and loved snow skiing, often with his father,
13 siblings, and two sons; and

14 WHEREAS, Tom Hardy was an unpretentious and generous man;
15 he was easy going with a great sense of humor and a big smile
16 to match; and

17 WHEREAS, Thomas Hardy leaves behind his loving fiancée,
18 Suzanne "Sue" Schoij, who was by his side for almost 12 years;
19 his sons whom he adored, Kevin Thomas (Kate) and Brian
20 Patrick; his granddaughters, Clare and Nora; his siblings,

1 Christine Ann Hardy (Tim Cornillie), Steven Michael (Terry),
2 Cathlyn Jane (Steve) Kroml and Brian Richard (Ellen); and many
3 nieces and nephews; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
6 Thomas Patrick Hardy and extend our sincere condolences to his
7 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to Sue Schoij as a symbol of our deepest sympathy.