



SR0372

LRB104 14336 MST 27469 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Lorin "Larry" Fortier, who passed away on May 23, 2025; and

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WHEREAS, Larry Fortier was born in Muskegon, Michigan to Helen and Lorin Fortier; his family moved to Park Ridge while he was in high school, after which he joined the U.S. Army, where he was stationed in Japan as a communications specialist; he married Sally Gauger, and they lived in Mattoon before spending the next 50 years in Des Plaines; and

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WHEREAS, Larry Fortier held many positions throughout his life; he worked as an accountant for a football manufacturer and a manager for Radio Shack, and in his last ten years before retiring, he was "Mr. Bus Driver", driving a school bus for middle to high school age students; and

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WHEREAS, Larry Fortier could build walls and shelves and rewire any room; he was a chef-extraordinaire, especially known for his Thanksgiving dinner; as his kids grew, he never missed a game, a meet, a match, a show, or a chance to have a game of catch in the backyard; and

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WHEREAS, Larry Fortier and Sally shared a love for books,

1 games, movies, music, and road trips; they cherished their  
2 community, which included South Side Little League, local  
3 bowling and tennis leagues, and St. Stephen Catholic Church,  
4 where they were active in the early days of the parish council  
5 and helped to produce the parish variety shows; and

6 WHEREAS, Larry Fortier held a great affinity for all  
7 books, especially any mystery he could find and all things  
8 Harry Potter; his happy places were Walt Disney World and the  
9 Chicago Botanic Garden; he enjoyed playing cards and any game;  
10 he loved baseball and the Cubs, football and the Bears, golf,  
11 tennis, horse racing, tv, movies, especially Star Wars, maps,  
12 car rides, popcorn, fireworks, music, coffee, and Starbucks;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Larry Fortier was preceded in death by his wife  
15 of 57 years, Sally; and

16 WHEREAS, Larry Fortier is survived by his children,  
17 Rebecca and Billy; his dog, Max; his siblings, Marc, Kristi,  
18 Shelly, Nan, and Laurie; his in-laws, Terry, Lance, and  
19 Richard; his Gauger family of in-laws, Betty and Vic and a clan  
20 of sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law; 40 nieces, nephews,  
21 grandnieces, and grandnephews; and his aunt, Donna Jacobson;  
22 therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL  
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
3 Lorin "Larry" Fortier and extend our sincere condolences to  
4 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
5 further

6           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7 presented to the family of Larry Fortier as an expression of  
8 our deepest sympathy.