



SR0773

LRB104 21771 LAW 37454 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of George V. Sheffer of Carbondale, who
4 passed away on April 25, 2026; and

5 WHEREAS, George Sheffer was born to George W. and Adelaide
6 (Ondrak) Sheffer in Chicago on August 22, 1952; he was raised
7 in Lombard; he graduated from Montini High School, where he
8 excelled on the wrestling team; he attended Southern Illinois
9 University (SIU) Carbondale until he was drafted into the
10 United States Army, receiving the National Defense Service
11 Medal for his honorable service during a time of conflict; he
12 married Diane Mirtich at St. Roch's Catholic Church in La
13 Salle on August 12, 1978; and

14 WHEREAS, George Sheffer returned to Carbondale after his
15 military service, where he managed the American Tap; he later
16 partnered in the hardware business with a True Value store in
17 Harrisburg, where he served as president of the Harrisburg
18 Chamber of Commerce and supported the community; after five
19 years, the Harrisburg business was sold and he became a
20 partner in Murdale True Value Hardware in Carbondale; he and
21 his family became sole owners of the business, expanding it
22 into Cannon Distributing and Just Ask Rental with his brother,
23 Jim; he and his wife, Diane, sold the business and retired in

1 2018; he was selected as a member on the Cotter & Company Board
2 of Directors while overseeing a merger period; and

3 WHEREAS, George Sheffer was dedicated to giving back to
4 his community; he served as president of the Carbondale
5 Chamber of Commerce, sat on the Carbondale Planning
6 Commission, taught Retail Management at the SIU College of
7 Business across multiple semesters, and chaired the Saluki
8 Pride Committee, beginning the tradition of Saluki paw prints
9 being painted on the roads of Carbondale for scholarships; he
10 organized programs like the Murdale Safe Halloween and
11 welcomed SIU international students to a cookout in Murdale
12 Shopping Center; he conducted many fundraisers for St. Francis
13 C.A.R.E., the Coach Kill Cancer Fund, Crime Stoppers, the Boys
14 and Girls Club, and Toys for Tots, which named him a Marine
15 Corps associate member for his work; he also served as
16 president of the Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) Foundation
17 Board for many years, and he and his wife received the SIH
18 Foundation Impact Award in 2025; and

19 WHEREAS, George Sheffer was named Business Leader of the
20 Year by the SIU College of Business and received the SIU
21 Distinguished Service Award, and his business was named
22 Business of the Year by the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce; he
23 and his wife both received the President's Service Award and
24 the Citizen of the Year Award; his business, Murdale True

1 Value, received national recognition when it was named the
2 True Value Hardware Store of the Year by the Hardware
3 Retailing Association; and

4 WHEREAS, George Sheffer was an active member of St.
5 Francis Xavier Church, where he volunteered as a Eucharistic
6 minister and lector and headed the funding campaign to
7 renovate the church, and he was proud of his fourth-degree
8 membership in the Knights of Columbus; and

9 WHEREAS, George Sheffer was preceded in death by his
10 parents and his sisters Cathleen Sheffer and Susan Sheffer;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, George Sheffer is survived by his wife, Diane;
13 his children, Dr. Amanda Sheffer and Dr. Douglas (Amber)
14 Sheffer; his granddaughter, Cameron Sheffer; and his siblings,
15 Edward (Anne) Sheffer, James (Laura) Sheffer, Dr. Mary Lou
16 Sheffer, and Thomas (Elizabeth) Sheffer; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
19 George V. Sheffer and extend our sincere condolences to his
20 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
21 further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the family of George Sheffer as an expression of
3 our deepest sympathy.