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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to
3 learn of the death of Chester John "Chick" Szech of
4 Libertyville, who passed away on September 6, 2019; and

5 WHEREAS, Chester Szech was born in North Chicago to John
6 and Mary Szczech on June 20, 1925; he attended Holy Rosary
7 School and graduated from Waukegan High School in 1943; he
8 enlisted in the United States Navy and was sent to Idaho for
9 basic training and then to San Diego to train as a Hospital
10 Corpsman; he was then assigned to Headquarters Company, 3rd
11 Battalion, 6th Marines, 2nd Marine Division; in 1944, he was
12 deployed to both Saipan and Tinian, where he was part of the
13 push to retake the Mariana Islands; for his actions during the
14 battle of Tinian, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with the
15 V device to denote heroism, the fourth highest military
16 decoration for valor; throughout his life, his Bronze Star was
17 an unwavering source of pride, as was his connection with the
18 Marines; and

19 WHEREAS, After the war, Chester Szech attended Lake Forest
20 College on the GI Bill and graduated in 1950; he worked as a
21 lather and also taught school in the Gavin and North Chicago
22 School Districts; he retired from teaching in 1986; and

1 WHEREAS, Chester Szech was a member of the Carpenter's
2 Union; he was a past president of the Illinois Chapter of the
3 2nd Marine Division Association and a founding member of the
4 Foss Park Golf League; in 1994, he returned to the Mariana
5 Islands to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Battle of
6 Saipan; he enjoyed spending time with his family and friends,
7 golfing, fishing, reading about the war in the South Pacific,
8 and working crossword puzzles; and

9 WHEREAS, Chester Szech is survived by his wife, Vicki; his
10 sons, John (Karen) and Andrew; his daughter, Mary (Donald
11 Popetz); five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren;
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
15 Chester John Szech and extend our sincere condolences to his
16 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of Chester Szech as an expression of
20 our deepest sympathy.