



SR1454

LRB101 22210 ECR 73240 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 Jerald "Jerry" Dean Bort, who passed away on August 28, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Jerry Bort was born to Fred and Edith (Kirkwood) Bort in Bunker Hill on November 30, 1940; he graduated from Decatur Barber College in 1958 and then graduated from East Alton-Wood River High School in 1959; he married Joyce Verlee Heuer on June 15, 1963, and she preceded him in death on April 18, 2017, after 53 years of marriage; he served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam Conflict from 1966 to 1968; he was part of the 1st Division and was present for the Tet Offensive in 1968; after his service, he attended St. Louis Community College in Forest Park and earned a degree in Fire Science in 1977; and

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WHEREAS, Jerry Bort retired as a captain at the Clayton, Missouri Fire Department in 1994, after 26 years of service; he had been a volunteer firefighter for 40 years and retired as Fire Chief of the Rosewood Heights Fire Department; he started as a Bunker Hill Fire Department volunteer for 10 years; he also enjoyed a few years as a barber in Alton; and

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WHEREAS, Jerry Bort was a member of St. Paul Lutheran

1 Church in Wood River where he served as an elder and usher; he
2 was also a member of the Madison County Fireman's Association
3 and a lifetime member of VFW Post 1308; he enjoyed time as
4 Friend of the Fox Theater usher and was a tour guide for the
5 Great River Museum at the Melvin Price Lock and Dam in his
6 retirement; and

7 WHEREAS, Jerry Bort enjoyed traveling in the United States
8 and abroad; he was a loving caregiver and handyman to his
9 family, friends, and community; and

10 WHEREAS, Jerry Bort was preceded in death by his parents;
11 his wife; his infant daughter, Teri Ann Bort; his twin brother,
12 Bruce Bort; his sisters-in-law, Janelle Heuer, Irene Bort, and
13 Corleen Heuer; and his brothers-in-law, Donald Heuer, Herbert
14 Lesemann, and Reverend Walter DeMoss; and

15 WHEREAS, Jerry Bort is survived by his son, Chris Bort
16 (Sabrina); his daughter, Cara Stearns (Kelly); his
17 grandchildren, Sam, Spencer, and Simon Stearns, and Heather
18 Brown; his brother, Fred (Sylvia) Bort; his sister, Helena
19 DeMoss; and his sisters-in-law, JoAnn Lesemann and Janette
20 Heuer; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
22 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of

1 Jerald "Jerry" Dean Bort and extend our sincere condolences to
2 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
3 further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
5 presented to the family of Jerry Bort as an expression of our
6 deepest sympathy.