



SR0370

LRB102 18856 LAW 27575 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 Mario John Sebastiani of Kankakee, who passed away on June 7, 2021; and

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WHEREAS, Mario Sebastiani was born to Eugene and Carlotta (Lenci) Sebastiani on February 25, 1928; he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was stationed in Tokyo, Japan, where he printed maps that showed battle lines and troop placements for the field command after he received aerial photos of the battle front; his military service ended in 1954; he married Betty Bright on June 26, 1954; and

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WHEREAS, Mario Sebastiani first served as a paper boy for the Kankakee Republican, the precursor of The Daily Journal; he officially began employment with the newspaper at the age of 16, which marked the beginning of his 65-year career; his first responsibilities were the pressroom jobs no one else wanted to do, including wiping down the presses; he started working in circulation when his older brother, Louie, was inducted into the U.S. Navy during World War II; he returned to the pressroom when Louie returned home and became a pressman soon thereafter; he was named pressroom superintendent as improvements began to influence the printing of newspapers, new offset presses were acquired, and The Daily Journal became

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1 a print site for USA Today for the Chicago area; under his
2 supervision, The Daily Journal won many prestigious awards for
3 printing quality, including several from USA Today; he last
4 served as general manager, where he was instrumental in the
5 day-to-day operation of the paper; he was respected and
6 admired, and his reputation and his relationship with his
7 peers reflected that respect and admiration; and

8 WHEREAS, Mario Sebastiani enjoyed watching things grow,
9 especially his garden and fruit trees; he picked and delivered
10 vegetables and fruit to his friends, family, coworkers, and
11 acquaintances every summer; he enjoyed spending time in his
12 own backyard and, in recent years, his living room chair,
13 where he could watch his plantings grow with one eye and the
14 stock market with the other; and

15 WHEREAS, Mario Sebastiani was a devoted husband, father,
16 grandfather, and great-grandfather; he was a great man with a
17 great heart; he will be missed; and

18 WHEREAS, Mario Sebastiani was preceded in death by his
19 wife of 67 years, Betty (Bright) Sebastiani; his parents; his
20 brother, Louie Sebastiani; his brother-in-law, Joseph Bright;
21 and his sister-in-law, Elsie Menard; and

22 WHEREAS, Mario Sebastiani is survived by his daughters,

1 Gina (Michael) Pullen and Linda (Jim) Scanlon; his
2 grandchildren, Mary (Mitch) Holmgren, Melissa (Peter) Chung,
3 Brad Johnson, Stephanie (Mark) Alessi, and Sarah (Kelly)
4 Krippel; his step-grandchildren, Jenna Kostelicz and Jamie
5 Panici and their families; his great-grandchildren, Brady
6 Chung, Ella Chung, Evan Alessi, Leah Alessi, and Kyle
7 Holmgren; his sisters-in-law, Dorothy Bright and Elinor
8 Bright; and his caregiver, D'Angelo Hunter; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
11 Mario John Sebastiani and extend our sincere condolences to
12 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of Mario Sebastiani as an expression
16 of our deepest sympathy.