



SR0519

LRB102 20099 ECR 28949 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 Roland August Groce of Moline, who passed away on September 9, 2021; and

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WHEREAS, Roland Groce was born to Marie Elizabeth (Koch) and Leo Arnold Groce in Rohrigshof, Germany on June 14, 1949; he and his mother emigrated to the United States when he was five years old to reunite the family in Rock Island, where he attended school; he served in the United States Army from March 27, 1969 until March 1, 1975, including one year in Vietnam; he was naturalized as an American citizen after he returned from Vietnam; and

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WHEREAS, Roland Groce retired from Alcoa as a brick mason after more than 33 years of service; and

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WHEREAS, Roland Groce was an avid history buff and a lover of opera and classical music; he had a passion for collecting watches; he spent 37 years with the love of his life, Carol (Coulter) Becka, and they traveled extensively; and

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WHEREAS, Roland Groce was preceded in death by his parents; and

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1           WHEREAS, Roland Groce is survived by his partner, Carol;  
2 his younger sister, Linda Wakiyama; his nieces and nephews,  
3 Yumi, Mari, Kenji, and Hikaru; and his great-nieces and  
4 great-nephews, Kenji's children; therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
7 Roland August Groce and extend our sincere condolences to his  
8 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
9 further

10           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
11 presented to the family of Roland Groce as an expression of our  
12 deepest sympathy.