



HR0534

LRB103 36154 ECR 66246 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Jeffrey George Spear of Quincy, who passed away on December 8, 2023; and

5

6

WHEREAS, Jeffrey Spear was born to George Harry and Charlotte Hansen Spear in Quincy on December 16, 1955; he graduated as valedictorian from Quincy High School in 1974, where he was on the basketball team and was a co-founder of the athletic supporters pep group; he received his bachelor's degree in biology and graduated magna cum laude from Kenyon College in 1978, where he was a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity; he married Theresa Lynn (Powers) Spear in Quincy on June 9, 1978, and he was valedictorian of his graduating class at the Worsham College of Mortuary Science in 1979; and

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

WHEREAS, Jeffrey Spear, along with his wife, owned and operated Hansen-Spear Funeral Home; and

18

19

WHEREAS, Jeffrey Spear was active in a number of community organizations, where many of his endeavors revolved around raising money for youth-based organizations; since 1987, he provided children's sermons at Luther Memorial and Hope

20

21

22

1 Lutheran Churches; and

2 WHEREAS, Jeffrey Spear was elected to the Quincy High
3 School Sports Hall of Fame in 1998 and the Illinois Basketball
4 Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2000; and

5 WHEREAS, Jeffrey Spear's interests evolved as he grew
6 older; post college, he ran three Chicago Marathons in under
7 three and a half hours; always an avid Chicago Cubs fan who
8 loved discussing baseball strategy and statistics with other
9 fans, he later began supporting the Bears, the Bulls, and the
10 Blackhawks; most recently, he enjoyed reading, cutting down
11 trees and splitting firewood, working in the yard, going to
12 rock and roll concerts, and sipping some fine California
13 Chardonnay; he was an extreme recycler and had a deep love of
14 nature; he cherished time spent with his family and was
15 especially proud of their individual accomplishments; and

16 WHEREAS, Jeffrey Spear was preceded in death by his
17 parents and his pets and grandpets, Gussie, Cassie, Sonoma
18 Red, Aspen, Artemis, and a host of cats; and

19 WHEREAS, Jeffrey Spear is survived by his wife of 45
20 years, Theresa; his sons, William (Dr. Kristin) Spear,
21 Nicholas (Sarah) Spear, and Kristjan (Lilian) Makke; his
22 grandsons, Zeus Spear, Theo Spear, Erik Makke, Sebastian

1 Makke, and Oskar Makke; his brothers, John (Lisa) Spear and
2 Dr. Robert (Jan) Spear; his father-in-law and mother-in-law,
3 Dr. Francis and Jean Powers; his brothers-in-law, Tom (Tina)
4 Powers and Tim (Laura) Powers; his sisters-in-laws, Peggy
5 Phillips, Faye (Mike) Ericson, and Joanne (Jeff) Bergman; his
6 numerous nieces and nephews; and his Irish Setter, Cutrer;
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
9 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we mourn the passing of Jeffrey George Spear and extend our
11 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew
12 and loved him; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the family of Jeffrey Spear as an expression of
15 our deepest sympathy.