



HR0794

LRB103 40597 ECR 73226 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Burl
4 Wayne Griffith, the former Mayor of Dieterich, who passed away
5 on March 31, 2024; and

6 WHEREAS, Burl Griffith was born to Glen Dale and Lorene
7 Griffith in Effingham on January 3, 1950; he lived in
8 Dieterich his entire life; he graduated from Dieterich High
9 School in 1968, where he was a member of the yearbook staff,
10 the historian club, and the student council, played on the
11 basketball and baseball teams, and ran track and cross
12 country; he attended Lakeland College from 1968 to 1970; he
13 received a bachelor's degree in political science with a minor
14 in physical education from Southern Illinois University
15 Edwardsville in 1972, where he was a scholarship athlete; he
16 married Audrey Weiffenbach at the First Christian Church in
17 Effingham on November 9, 1974, and they had three children,
18 Trent Wayne, Ty, and Tori Lorene; and

19 WHEREAS, Burl Griffith worked as a substitute teacher in
20 Effingham and Jasper Counties for two and a half years; he
21 served as a transportation engineer at Ameren/CIPS in Newton
22 and as a steward for Local 702 for many years; and

1 WHEREAS, Burl Griffith possessed extraordinary love and
2 insight into the future for his community while serving as
3 Mayor of Dieterich for two terms; during his tenure, he
4 encouraged new businesses to come to Dieterich and helped
5 establish North Pointe, a new, affordable subdivision targeted
6 towards people with growing families; and

7 WHEREAS, Burl Griffith served as a school board member of
8 Dieterich Community Unit School District 30 for many years; he
9 was instrumental in helping the implementation of Spanish into
10 the school curriculum, securing land to build a preschool for
11 the district, and overseeing the completion of a large
12 remodeling project; and

13 WHEREAS, Burl Griffith was an active member of his
14 community, serving as a deacon at the First Christian Church
15 in Dieterich, a precinct committeeman for several years, and a
16 volunteer firefighter; he was also a member of the Winterrowd
17 Masonic Lodge #664 in Dieterich and was a Shriner with the
18 Ainad Temple; and

19 WHEREAS, Burl Griffith continued the legacy of his late
20 mother by helping form and operate the Dieterich Park District
21 while coaching Little League; in turn, he encouraged and
22 instilled civic responsibilities in his children by making it
23 a family project to assist with the building and maintenance

1 of the Dieterich Park District and Veterans Memorial; and

2 WHEREAS, Burl Griffith was a sports fan all of his life,
3 and he often participated in pick-up basketball games on
4 Saturday mornings with local talent; he played on a 45 and
5 older men's basketball team until age 55, and his team, D-J's
6 Party and Supply, became tournament champions; and

7 WHEREAS, Burl Griffith was one-of-a-kind and never met a
8 stranger, and he would do anything for those in need without
9 wanting credit; and

10 WHEREAS, Burl Griffith was preceded in death by his
11 parents; his son, Trent Wayne Griffith; his sister, Betty Dale
12 Klein; his brother-in-law, Rocky Bloemker; and his nephew,
13 Brandon Weiffenbach; and

14 WHEREAS, Burl Griffith is survived by his wife of 49
15 years, Audrey Griffith; his children, Ty (Bri) Griffith and
16 Tori (Jeff) Amburn; his grandchildren, Charlotte, Sutton, and
17 Alexander; his sister, Marsha (Hallie) Beals; his
18 brothers-in-law, Bud (Fran) Klein and John F. (Cathy)
19 Weiffenbach; his sister-in-law, Cleone Bloemker; and several
20 nieces and nephews; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
2 we mourn the passing of Burl Wayne Griffith, the former Mayor
3 of Dieterich, and extend our sincere condolences to his
4 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Burl Griffith as an expression of
8 our deepest sympathy.