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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of John Hubert Sciarretta Sr. of
4 Deerfield, who passed away on March 2, 2023; and

5 WHEREAS, John Sciarretta was born in Evanston to Alfonso
6 and Hazel Sciarretta on April 4, 1940; at the age of three, he
7 went to St. Mary's Training School for Boys (Maryville
8 Academy) in Des Plaines, and at the age of 18, he enlisted in
9 the United States Marine Corps, where he served his country
10 honorably and with distinction for four years as a lance
11 corporal; he married Maria DeFrenza, and they traveled through
12 Italy before returning to Glenview; he relocated his family to
13 Deerfield in 1976; and

14 WHEREAS, John Sciarretta had a passion for food and
15 hospitality and opened the Italian Kitchen restaurant, which
16 he and his wife owned for over half a century; through this,
17 they played a significant role in supplying food for family
18 gatherings and also for numerous clubs and organizations in
19 the community, which John held near and dear to his heart; he
20 was pivotal in bringing people together and creating a sense
21 of community, and the restaurant was an extension of that, a
22 place where he shared his wonderful stories and gave a job to
23 anyone in need; he was a man who never turned down a request

1 for a donation of food or for volunteering to many meaningful
2 causes in which he believed; he always wanted to see
3 Deerfield's businesses grow and succeed; and

4 WHEREAS, John Sciarretta was involved with various
5 organizations that brought him great pride, including the
6 Deerfield Lions Club, the American Legion, and the Wounded
7 Warriors Foundation; he was one of the founding fathers of the
8 Deerfield Family Day's Bicycle Parade; and

9 WHEREAS, John Sciarretta's volunteerism led to numerous
10 accolades that he cherished dearly, including the Lions Club
11 International Foundation Melvin Jones Fellowship, Deerfield's
12 Human Relations Award, the DBR (Deerfield, Bannockburn,
13 Riverwoods) Chamber of Commerce Sherry Kalan Community Service
14 Award, the Optimist Club's President's Citation, the Rotary
15 Club Paul Harris Fellow, and Illinois Dollars for Scholars
16 Lincolnland Legend; and

17 WHEREAS, John Sciarretta was affectionately known as "Papa
18 John" to his grandchildren and "Great Papa John" to his
19 great-grandchild; and

20 WHEREAS, John Sciarretta enjoyed telling a witty joke or
21 an anecdote about his many silly shenanigans; he was quite the
22 showman with his homegrown tomatoes, gigantic sunflowers,

1 record-worthy zucchini, and homemade limoncello and had a
2 special affinity for the Rose of Sharon plant; and

3 WHEREAS, John Sciarretta was preceded in death by his
4 siblings, Elizabeth Askin and Alfonso Sciarretta; and

5 WHEREAS, John Sciarretta is survived by his wife of 57
6 years, Maria; his children, Samuel (Beth), John (Emerald)
7 Sciarretta, Lisa (Johnston) Hoehne, and Angela (Michael)
8 Butera; his grandchildren, Brandon (Lindy) Engle, Alexandra
9 (Brady) Burkholder, John-Joseph and Jessica Sciarretta, Henry,
10 Jackson, and Josephine Hoehne, and Maria and Charlie Butera;
11 his great-grandchild, Scarlett Burkholder; his siblings, Gildo
12 Sciarretta, Karen Robinson, and Sharon Walerius; and numerous
13 other family members; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
16 John Hubert Sciarretta Sr. and extend our sincere condolences
17 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be
18 it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the family of John Sciarretta as an expression of
21 our deepest sympathy.