



SR0967

LRB103 40423 MST 72738 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 Michael W. "Mike" Malmstrom of Moline, who passed away on April 10, 2024; and

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WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom was born to Willa Mae (Stark) and Lawrence Daniel Malmstrom on March 26, 1953 and was raised in humble surroundings in Moline; and

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WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom became an active member of the United States Marine Corps in 1972 and then seven months later joined the Marine Corps Reserve; and

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WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom was employed by McLaughlin Body in 1973; he became a union member in good standing with UAW 1414 as an assembler, spot welder, and forklift driver; he started work for John Deere Harvester Works in January of 1974 and joined UAW 865 during that time; while employed, he was instrumental in starting the first annual, official, East Moline Labor Day Parade in 1983 and was chairman of the parade committee for four years; and

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WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom returned to John Deere Harvester Works in 1993 and, after giving another 10 and a half more years, finally retired in 2004; he stayed on as a union member

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1 in good standing with UAW 865's retiree group; and

2 WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom had the pleasure of working
3 alongside U.S. Congressman Lane Evans, also a Marine veteran,
4 as his scheduler and driver for State functions; over the past
5 15 years, he served as the precinct committeeman for South
6 Moline 19; and

7 WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom joined and then became commander
8 of AMVETS #145 of East Moline, serving for 21 years; and

9 WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom served as the finance officer for
10 American Legion Post 582 of Erie; and

11 WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom joined Marine Corp League (MCL),
12 Lincoln Detachment in 1990; with his abounding energy, hard
13 work, and affable personality, he become MCL Department of
14 Illinois Commandant in 1993; over the past 30 years, he held
15 various other positions, most recently as their finance
16 officer; he was a representative of the Combined Veterans
17 Association for the MCL and then appointed as chairman; and

18 WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom enjoyed deer hunting, woodworking,
19 and traveling the country on his motorcycle with his wife in
20 his spare time; for over 30 years, he brought happiness to
21 everyone around him, dressing up as Santa and visiting

1 children, veterans, and nursing homes; and

2 WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom has been involved with the
3 Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA) since 2010, serving the
4 first four years as its vice president; in 2015, he became its
5 president and served until his passing; he also served on the
6 state board of ARA for six years; and

7 WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom had been president of Bridging the
8 Gap for Homeless Vets since 2001, helping to coordinate and
9 host the veterans Stand Down Events; and

10 WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom will be forever remembered as an
11 inspirational person who never hesitated to help his family,
12 country, and corps and who served the veterans community of
13 Illinois with dignity and incredible devotion; and

14 WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom was a mentor to new and existing
15 Marine Corps League Department officers and was gracious and
16 generous with his time and knowledge; and

17 WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom was a dignified U.S. Marine and
18 volunteered for any situation when needed; he will be honored
19 by his devotion to his brothers and sisters in harm's way for
20 all years to come; and

1 WHEREAS, Mike Malmstrom was the devoted husband of 48
2 years to his beautiful wife, Sheila Malmstrom, and the loving
3 father of five and the grandparent to eight adoring
4 grandchildren, Jenica, Linnea, Alicia, Patrick, Karl, Caleb,
5 Ariannah, and Isaiah; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
8 Michael W. "Mike" Malmstrom and extend our sincere condolences
9 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be
10 it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to the family of Mike Malmstrom as an expression of
13 our deepest sympathy.