



SR1282

LRB103 43056 MST 76309 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 Mervin Lester Kleinik of Mulberry Grove, who passed away on October 18, 2024; and

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WHEREAS, Mervin Kleinik, the son of Walter M. and Ruth I. (Hoyle) Kleinik, was born in rural Fayette County on September 10, 1934; he was raised in Mulberry Grove, where he lived his whole life; he married Reta Ilene Gelsinger in Vandalia on January 7, 1956; and

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WHEREAS, Mervin Kleinik worked as a forklift operator for Alton Box and Board, later known as Jefferson Smurfit, in Highland for 46 years; and

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WHEREAS, Mervin Kleinik was a hard worker; he had a remarkable ability to outpace those who were half his age, embodying his belief that success comes from reaching the peak; his word was his bond, and he was known for his organized approach to life, always knowing where the most random things were located; his life was a testament to hard work, dedication, and the importance of family; and

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WHEREAS, Mervin Kleinik was known for his meticulous nature; he took pride in his yard, mowing on a precise four-day

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1 schedule and ensuring every weed was pulled; he discovered a
2 love for deer hunting, embracing the outdoors with the same
3 enthusiasm he showed in all his pursuits; while he had a
4 notorious dislike for snakes, he enjoyed spending time
5 outside; he could always be found outside with Ilene, working
6 around the house, washing the truck, and waving at the
7 neighbors; and

8 WHEREAS, Mervin Kleinik cherished his time with his wife,
9 especially when they were able to work together, side by side;
10 his passion for ice cream was matched only by his love for time
11 spent with his grandchildren, instilling in them the values of
12 hard work and responsibility; and

13 WHEREAS, Mervin Kleinik was preceded in death by his
14 parents; his brothers, Dale, Gale, Berthal, and Norman
15 Kleinik; and his sister, Geneva Mohrbacker; and

16 WHEREAS, Mervin Kleinik is survived by his wife of 68
17 years, Ilene; his sons, Michael D. and Terry L. (Sandy)
18 Kleinik; his daughter, Shelia K. (Randy) Long; his
19 grandchildren, Ryan (Rebecca) Kleinik, Amanda Perkins, Kyle
20 (Stephanie) Hessenauer, Jared (Brooke) Kleinik, and Tristin
21 (Monica) Long; seven great-grandchildren; and his siblings,
22 Elmer Hoyle and Barbara Ann (Dewayne) Spencer; therefore, be
23 it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
3 Mervin Lester Kleinik and extend our sincere condolences to
4 his 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 Mervin Kleinik as an expression of
8 our deepest sympathy.