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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to recognize Kenneth Collier of Salem as he proudly passes the torch of a cherished Memorial Day tradition of playing "Taps" to his grandson, Charlie Snow; and

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WHEREAS, His first time playing "Taps" on his trumpet at the Memorial Day service was in 1947, when a clarinet player, Bill Hunington, and he, a seventh grader, played with the high school band; the only time Kenneth Collier has been interrupted from his mission was during the Korean Conflict in the 1950s; and

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WHEREAS, When Kenneth Collier was in the Navy, he was in the Drum and Bugle Corps in San Diego, even though he had never played a bugle before; he was able to attend the United States Navy School of Music and was fortunate enough to play in Washington, D.C. on several occasions; as part of the Navy band, he was selected to go on two world cruises as a musician; and

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WHEREAS, He has played at funerals everywhere and sometimes played at as many as four a day; he kept a record of the funerals for which he had played "Taps" over the years, but stopped counting when he reached 2,000; and

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WHEREAS, On Memorial Day 2004, Kenneth Collier listened intently as Charlie, his grandson, played those familiar notes as his grandfather had done for almost 60 years; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize Kenneth Collier's lifelong devotion to the tradition of "Taps" as he passes on the torch to his grandson; and we

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1 wish him good health and happiness in all his future endeavors;  
2 and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4 presented to Kenneth Collier as a token of our admiration.