



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, U.S. Marine Corporal Matthew Wyatt of Millstadt  
3 died December 3, 2004 while serving his country; he was killed  
4 when a car bomb exploded while he was patrolling Trebil, a town  
5 on the Iraq-Jordan border; he was awarded the Purple Heart; and

6 WHEREAS, Matthew's death marks the first military casualty  
7 for Millstadt since World War II; and

8 WHEREAS, He is the son of Verlene and U.S. Marine Gunnery  
9 Sergeant Alan Wyatt; and

10 WHEREAS, He was born and raised in Millstadt, and was a  
11 1997 graduate of Millstadt Consolidated School and a 2001  
12 graduate of Belleville West High School where he was a  
13 defensive back on the football team; he was known as an  
14 outgoing and hard-working young man; and

15 WHEREAS, After graduating from high school, he enlisted in  
16 the Marine Corps for a five-year term that would have ended in  
17 2006; since August 2002, he had been based at Camp Lejeune,  
18 North Carolina; he left for his first tour of duty in Iraq on  
19 September 14, 2004; and

20 WHEREAS, He will be remembered as a small-town boy with big  
21 ideas; as a boy, Matthew wanted one thing in life more than  
22 anything else - to become a Hollywood movie star; later, his  
23 dream was to play college football for the University of  
24 Michigan - then it was to become a Marine; a movie aficionado,  
25 he was the funnyman at family gatherings; every time the family  
26 got together, he would round up his cousins and perform skits;  
27 he also took part in all the church and school plays; he wanted  
28 to move to California to be an actor, but he knew Millstadt was  
29 home; and

1           WHEREAS, His bravery in combat and willingness to serve his  
2 country will never be forgotten by a grateful State and nation;  
3 it is because of true heroes like Matthew that each U.S.  
4 citizen has the freedoms they enjoy; and

5           WHEREAS, He is survived by his parents; therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
7 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
8 together with his family, friends, fellow members of the United  
9 States armed forces, and the citizens of this State and this  
10 great nation, we mourn the passing of U.S. Marine Corporal  
11 Matthew Wyatt and we extend to his family our sincerest  
12 condolences; and be it further

13           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
14 presented to his family as an expression of our deepest  
15 sympathy.