



SR0185

LRB098 11518 GRL 43698 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Donald Sandidge of Alton, who passed away on February 17, 2013; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge was born on April 7, 1937, in Peoria; his parents were Thomas E. and Mary Ellen Sandidge; he graduated from Alton High School in 1956, playing quarterback in the 1955 and 1956 seasons and serving as team captain in 1956; he lettered in both football and baseball; he served in the United States Marine Corps from 1958 to 1961 and earned the rank of sergeant (E-5); and

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

WHEREAS, Following his military service, Donald Sandidge joined the Alton Police Department as a patrolman; he moved up the ranks to detective, chief of detectives, captain, and, in 1986, became chief of police and was named Commander of the Greater St. Louis Major Case Squad, becoming the only Illinois officer to command the squad; and

13

14

15

16

17

18

WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge was a member of the Alton American Legion and a life member of VFW Post 1308; he served as treasurer of the Vietnam Memorial Committee, as a board member of the American Cancer Society and as a board member of the Salvation Army; he was a life member of the Southern Illinois

19

20

21

22

1 Police Chief's Association and a member of the Illinois
2 Association of Chiefs of Police and the International
3 Association of Chiefs of Police; he also served as past
4 president of the Alton Area boys Tackle Football Inc. and was a
5 member of the K.C. Quarterback Club; and

6 WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge continued his education
7 throughout his life, earning a bachelor's degree in law
8 enforcement and public administration from the University of
9 Illinois-Springfield; he later graduated from the FBI National
10 Academy at Quantico, Virginia; and

11 WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge didn't slow down upon his
12 retirement from law enforcement in 1989; he worked as a
13 probation officer for Madison County and was elected mayor of
14 Alton serving from 1997 to 2009; as mayor, he fixed Alton's
15 infrastructure, repaved hundreds of miles of roads, demolished
16 derelict houses, worked to attract good doctors, and to attract
17 new businesses and developers to the community; he was inducted
18 into Alton High School's Wall of Fame in honor of his over 50
19 years of public service; and

20 WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge was preceded in death by his
21 parents; his brother, Thomas E. Sandidge Jr.; and his
22 father-in-law, Dennis Whipple; and

1 WHEREAS, Donald Sandidge is survived by his wife of 51
2 years, Sheri; his children, Dene Sandidge and Don E. (Leah)
3 Sandidge II; his grandchildren, Chris Sullivan and Chandra and
4 Donetta Sandidge; his mother-in-law, Golda Whipple; his aunt,
5 Joann Ripper; his sisters-in-law and brother-in-law, Denny
6 Dailey, Joy Whipple, Genell Mills, and Melody (John) Tigo; and
7 his nieces, nephews, and cousins; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
10 Donald Sandidge, and we extend our sincere condolences to his
11 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
12 further

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