



SR0576

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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 John Francis Rourke of McHenry, who passed away on September 16, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, John Rourke was born on March 16, 1945 in McHenry; his parents were Francis and Beverly (Rimell) Rourke; he married Edith Lee Sutherland on February 14, 1969; and

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WHEREAS, John Rourke graduated from McHenry High School in 1963; he went on to attend Northwestern University on a Chick Evans Scholarship; and

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WHEREAS, John Rourke was drafted by the United States Army in 1967; he served in the Vietnam War as a member of C Troop, 3rd Squadron, 4th United States Cavalry Regiment of the 25th Infantry Division; he was the recipient of a Presidential Unit Citation, the Vietnam Service Medal with 3 bronze service stars, and a Good Conduct Medal for his meritorious service; and

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WHEREAS, After working at Lakeland Construction, Inc., John Rourke worked at Northwest Airlines for 26 years until his retirement in 2007; during his retirement, he worked on a farm, drove a bus, and volunteered at the Centrega Sage Cancer Center

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1 in McHenry; and

2 WHEREAS, John Rourke was a natural athlete from an early
3 age; he was proud to have thrown the first recorded no-hitter
4 in McHenry Little League history and was the first recipient of
5 the McHenry High School All-Sports Athlete of the Year Award;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, John Rourke enjoyed spending time with his family,
8 especially his three grandsons; he was a dedicated fan of the
9 Chicago Bears, Chicago Cubs, and Chicago Bulls; he also loved
10 all sports, playing pool, golfing, cribbage, backgammon, a good
11 card or dice game, and spending time with his fellow veterans;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, John Rourke was preceded in death by his parents,
14 Frank and Beverly Rourke; his brother, Kurt Patrick Rourke; his
15 mother-in-law, Naomi Mazarka; his niece, Billie Jo "Sissy"
16 Perry; his great-nephew, Harrison Dooher; his brother-in-law,
17 Nicholas Freund; and his in-laws, Paul and Bonnie
18 Mpistolarides; and

19 WHEREAS, John Rourke is survived by his loving wife of 44
20 years, Edith Rourke; his daughters, Jenifer (Jeff) Anderson and
21 Raina Rourke; his grandsons, Brady John and Ryan Michael
22 Anderson and Jonah Francis Rourke; his sister, Cynthia Freund;

1 his brother, Kevin Rourke; and his many nieces, nephews,
2 great-nieces, great-nephews, and friends; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with his
5 family and friends, mourn the passing of John Francis Rourke;
6 and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to the family of John Rourke as an expression of our
9 sympathy.