



SR1206

LRB099 14418 MST 38516 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 Stephen "Steve" Cannon, who passed away on September 17, 2015; and

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WHEREAS, Steve Cannon was born on October 28, 1940 to Dorothy (nee Seymour) Dalbey and Leland Cannon and was raised on a farm in Oakwood; he was married to Sherry (nee Downing) Cannon for 29 years; and

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WHEREAS, Steve Cannon attended the University of Illinois for a semester before joining his brothers as a licensed barber in Danville for 50 years and operating his own barbershop; he also was involved in the insurance business for 30 years, eventually developing a niche in auto racing liability insurance; and

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WHEREAS, Steve Cannon joined the Danville Fire Department in 1968, serving the community for 29 years; he was named Firefighter of the Year, served as union president, and achieved the rank of Lieutenant; he was active in politics as a staunch Democrat in Vermilion County; he was elected twice as Chairman of the Vermilion County Board of Review; and

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WHEREAS, Steve Cannon's true passion always was auto

1 racing; he began racing Modifieds in the early 1960s, even
2 building his own cars, and was a natural talent both
3 mechanically and behind the wheel; he advanced to the United
4 States Auto Club (USAC) ranks in 1969, driving Midgets,
5 Sprints, and Silver Crowns; he had 21 USAC Midget victories and
6 12 track records in only 219 career starts, placing him 22nd on
7 the all-time USAC wins list; he finished in the USAC Midget Top
8 10 in point standings on 4 occasions, running only half (or
9 fewer) of the races during these seasons; he was the 1974 USAC
10 Indoor Midget Champion; he tallied 10 Top 10 finishes in only
11 31 Silver Crown starts and was the winner of a 50-mile Open
12 Competition Sprint Feature on the Springfield Mile in 1971; he
13 was recently nominated for the National Midget Auto Racing Hall
14 of Fame; and

15 WHEREAS, Steve Cannon was an avid sports fan; he loved
16 attending Illini football and basketball games with his friends
17 and family; he played in a tennis league and enjoyed watching
18 it on TV; he played pool with his friends around Danville and
19 was a die-hard Chicago Cubs fan; and

20 WHEREAS, Steve Cannon was preceded in death by his father;
21 his brother, Larry Cannon; his stepfather, Frank Dalbey; and
22 his uncles, Kenneth and Hubert Seymour; and

23 WHEREAS, Steve Cannon is survived by his mother, Dorothy

1 Dalbey; his wife, Sherry; his daughter, Pamela Lynn
2 Cannon-Garcia (Michael); his son, Stephen Alan Cannon, Jr.; his
3 grandchildren, Chloe Marie Garcia and Cannon Michael Garcia;
4 his brother, Mikel Cannon (Mary Kay); his aunt, Ida Belle
5 (Seymour) Condon; his nieces, Jodie, Jill, Christine, and
6 Cathi; and many cousins and close friends; therefore, be it

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

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the family of Stephen Cannon as an expression of
14 our deepest sympathy.