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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 William S. "Bill" Clayton, Maj. USAF Ret. of Rantoul, who passed away on February 11, 2018; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Clayton was born to Alfred Stafford and Elizabeth (Noyes) Clayton on January 22, 1948 and attended University High School in Bloomington, Indiana; he earned a Bachelor of Science from Purdue University and a master's degree in aviation management and a master's degree in aeronautical science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University; he attended Air Command and Staff College, USAF Air University in Maxwell AFB, Alabama; he married Kathryn Ann Davison in 1971; he married Michelle Hosman on February 18, 2001; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Clayton learned to fly when he was in high school and loved to say he could fly a plane before he could get a driver's license; that love for flying led him to the United States Air Force, where he spent 21 years; he flew T-37, T38 jets, and UH1, UH2 helicopters for 16 years; his last job in the Air Force was "flying a desk" as Chief of Safety at Chanute Air Force Base, until he retired in 1992; he then became an aviation specialist in 1996 until he was promoted to airport manager in 2006; he retired in 2014; he had FAA ratings

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1 in Airplane Multi-engine-limited to Center Thrust, Rotocraft
2 Helicopter, Instrument Airplane and BH-204 Helicopter,
3 Commercial Pilot, Private Privileges, and Airplane Single
4 Engine Land; and

5 WHEREAS, Bill Clayton was a trustee for the Village of
6 Rantoul from 1995 to 1996; he was the Rantoul Area Chamber of
7 Commerce Citizen of the Year, which he shared with his wife,
8 Michelle, in 2006; and

9 WHEREAS, Bill Clayton served as president of the Octave
10 Chanute Aerospace Museum Foundation; he and others started the
11 museum, gathering items from around the base as Chanute
12 prepared to close in 1993; he was a lifetime member of the
13 Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum Foundation and a member of the
14 board of directors, serving as president and vice president; he
15 was a coordinator for the Chanute AFB Alumni Reunion; and

16 WHEREAS, Bill Clayton was a member of the USAF Helicopter
17 Pilot Association; he was past member of the Champaign County
18 Balloon National Championship Board of Directors; he was a
19 member and past president of the Air Force Association, Chapter
20 133; and

21 WHEREAS, Bill Clayton was a member of the First United
22 Methodist Church of Rantoul; he was a past member of the

1 Rantoul Rotary Club, serving as president from 1996 to 1997; he
2 was co-coordinator of the Rantoul Community Bicycle Recycle
3 Program from 2001 to 2016; and

4 WHEREAS, Bill Clayton was preceded in death by his parents;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Bill Clayton is survived by his wife of 16 years,
7 Michelle; his daughter, Connie (Joe) Coronado; his sons, Adam
8 (Kristin) and Andy (Janet) Clayton; his stepdaughters, Natalie
9 (Phillip) Davidson and Nicole (Brian) Churillo; his stepson,
10 Nikolaus Matten; his brothers, John (Cynthia) and James
11 Clayton; 11 grandchildren; two great-granddaughters; and five
12 nieces and nephews; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
15 William S. "Bill" Clayton, Maj. USAF Ret., and extend our
16 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew
17 and loved him; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of Bill Clayton as an expression of our
20 deepest sympathy.