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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 Dr. Richard G. Macdonald of Peoria, who passed away on October 31, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Macdonald was born in Evanston to Dr. Hugh and Edith Macdonald on December 31, 1936; he graduated from Peoria High School and attended the University of Illinois; he graduated from the Illinois College of Podiatric Medicine in 1960 and joined the U.S. Army, becoming the 18th podiatrist commissioned in its history; he married Sally Anderson in 1961; and

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WHEREAS, In 1965, Dr. Macdonald returned to Peoria and established a private podiatric practice, specializing in foot surgery, diabetic care, and ulcers; during his career, he was a clinical instructor with the Department of Family and Community Medicine and the University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria; he published numerous articles in his field; he was affiliated with OSF Saint Francis Hospital, Methodist Hospital, and Proctor Hospital; he was a consultant for the VA Out-Patient Clinic and served on the Alumni Board of Directors at the Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at Rosalind Franklin University; and

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1           WHEREAS, Dr. Macdonald was a tireless advocate for  
2           podiatry; he worked to increase its reputation as a  
3           cost-effective medical and surgical discipline; he led a  
4           landmark federal case seeking full credentialing; for his  
5           pioneering work, he was honored in 2011 as Scholl College  
6           Alumnus of the Year; in 2016, he received the American  
7           Podiatric Medical Association's Meritorious Service Award for  
8           his profound impact on the field; and

9           WHEREAS, Dr. Macdonald retired in 2007; he authored two  
10          books, Inside the gates: The Nazi Concentration Camp at  
11          Ebensee, Austria, which chronicles the war experience of his  
12          father, and The Whooping Cough Germ That Became a Hero, a  
13          children's book illustrating his father's collaborative work  
14          to develop the first whooping cough vaccine, which is still in  
15          use today; he lectured on wartime events at public libraries,  
16          universities, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at  
17          Bradley University, and military museums; he felt humbled to  
18          meet camp survivors and veterans of his father's unit; and

19          WHEREAS, Dr. Macdonald was a long-time member of the Peoria  
20          Rotary Club, serving on its board of directors; he also served  
21          on the Peoria Symphony Orchestra board and was a board member  
22          in the church of his youth, the Universalist-Unitarian Church  
23          of Peoria; and

1           WHEREAS, Dr. Macdonald was affectionately known as "Dr.  
2 Mac"; he was a warm and generous presence; he rarely met a  
3 joke, no matter how inappropriate, that he didn't believe worth  
4 sharing; he was an avid news junkie and mocker of hubris and  
5 penned many a blistering letter to the editor; he enjoyed  
6 traveling; and

7           WHEREAS, Dr. Macdonald was preceded in death by his wife,  
8 Sally; and

9           WHEREAS, Dr. Macdonald is survived by his partner of many  
10 years, Barbara O'Brien; his sons, Richard (Elizabeth Morrison)  
11 and Philip (Dena); his daughter, Annie; his grandchildren,  
12 Evelyn Morrison and Leighton Macdonald; and his sister-in-law,  
13 Ester Macdonald; therefore, be it

14           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
16 Dr. Richard G. Macdonald and extend our sincere condolences to  
17 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
18 further

19           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20 presented to the family of Dr. Macdonald as an expression of  
21 our deepest sympathy.