



SR0459

LRB103 34206 LAW 64029 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 William Joseph "Bill" Christiansen of Des Plaines, who passed away on August 23, 2023; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Christiansen was born to Christ G. Christiansen and Kathleen (O'Rourke) Christiansen on December 26, 1946; he was a lifelong Des Plaines resident; he served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and earned numerous awards, including the Silver Star, the Purple Heart, and the Bronze Star as a long-range reconnaissance patrolman (LRRP)/ranger; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Christiansen worked as a dockman for K&R Delivery; in retirement, he enjoyed fishing and started a second career at Rolling Meadows High School, where he worked as an instructional assistant in the Special Education Department and as a coach for the girls' bowling team and boys' water polo team; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Christiansen found joy in sharing his wartime experiences, serving as a guest speaker in high school classrooms and as president of his local Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) chapter; most recently, he authored a book about his time in Vietnam; and

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1 WHEREAS, Bill Christiansen will be remembered as a loving
2 husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin, friend,
3 and fisherman; and

4 WHEREAS, Bill Christiansen was preceded in death by his
5 parents and his sister, Mary Ann Walker; and

6 WHEREAS, Bill Christiansen is survived by his wife of 55
7 years, Connie (Gilmore); his daughters, Annie (Steve) Grosz,
8 Sara (Dan) Knigge, Leah Dillow, and Becky (Brent) Offill; his
9 grandchildren, Charlie, Mikaela, Jack, Julia, Evan, Matthew,
10 Thomas, Tessa, and Joe; his siblings, Bob (Judy) Christiansen,
11 Kathy (Izzy) Sierra, Tom (Jan) Christiansen, and Kevin (Irene)
12 Christiansen; and countless nieces and nephews; therefore, be
13 it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
16 William Joseph "Bill" Christiansen and extend our sincere
17 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
18 him; and be it further

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