



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives  
3 learned with regret of the death of Donald F. Krahn of Mendota  
4 on Friday, February 3, 2006; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Krahn was born on September 26,1932 in Aurora  
6 to Emil and Laura (Hauser) Krahn; he was a graduate of Warsaw,  
7 Missouri High School; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Krahn served with the 44th Infantry Division  
9 National Guard during the Korean conflict, and he was a cook in  
10 Germany with the 407th Engineering Battalion; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Krahn was employed as a Tool Designer at  
12 Caterpillar's Oswego Township plant; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1958, Mr. Krahn married Ann Combs; in 1964, the  
14 couple purchased the Oswego Ledger, a weekly newspaper, where  
15 he served as publisher and advertising manager for the paper;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, The Krahns' 12-year tenure as owners of the Oswego  
18 Ledger was a period of growth and innovation for the newspaper;  
19 they established an office, changed the paper's format and  
20 circulation type, and began assigning reporters to provide  
21 regular news coverage of local governmental meetings, which put  
22 the newspaper in direct competition with daily newspapers for  
23 local news coverage; and

24 WHEREAS, In 1973, the newspaper's office was destroyed by a  
25 fire; even though the fire struck on a Monday, the Krahns and  
26 their staff still managed to publish the next edition of the  
27 paper as scheduled on the following Thursday; they later built  
28 a multi-tenant office building that housed the Ledger, a  
29 printing service, The Silent Secretary, and an office supply

1 store, The Paper Crate, which were also owned by the Krahn's;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Traveling, woodworking, and flying were among Mr.  
4 Krahn's favorite pastimes; he built one plane and rebuilt a  
5 second after earning his pilot's license in 1972; and

6 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his parents and his  
7 brother, Paul; and

8 WHEREAS, The passing of Donald F. Krahn has been deeply  
9 felt by many, especially his wife; his sons, David (Peggy) and  
10 Jeffrey (Janet); his daughter, Susan (Ron) Austin; his  
11 granddaughters, Lisa (John) Eldredge, Heather (Andy) Pipitone,  
12 Amy Krahn, and Brittany and Tiffany Austin; his  
13 great-grandchildren, Mandi, Katie and Emma Eldredge, and  
14 James, Vincent, Gianna, and Mia Pipitone; his sisters, Esther  
15 (Kyle) Hammer, Lois (Jim) Rogers, Ruth Hoffman, and Mildred  
16 Burkhart; and his eighteen nieces and nephews; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
18 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
19 we mourn the passing of Donald F. Krahn, and we extend our  
20 sincerest condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew  
21 and loved him; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
23 presented to his family as an expression of our deepest  
24 sympathy for their loss.