



1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois learned with regret of the death of William A. "Bill" Williams of Richton Park on February 26, 2006; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, He was born on June 16, 1936, to Fred Sr. and Beatrice Williams on a farm in Gilmore, Arkansas; the family relocated to Chicago in the early 1940s; he served his country as a member of the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany, where he became fluent in German and later in French; and

6

7

8

9

10

WHEREAS, For years, he was a bus driver for the Chicago Transit Authority and later for the American Sightseeing Tour Bus Company; he was a favorite with German and French tourists because he could speak their languages; then in 1978, while driving for the Willet Bus Company, he became smitten with a young teacher he met at Kozminski Elementary School; he married Yvonne Brooks in 1980; and

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

WHEREAS, He was a man of many hobbies, including writing; he had two unpublished novels and was working on a family memoir; he previously had written a column for the Chicago Defender; he collected over 50 miniature cars with moving parts, including remote-controlled fire trucks; in his early 60s, he took up the guitar; he was a pack rat and loved westerns, music, good books, facts and trivia, telling jokes, and playing pranks; and

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

WHEREAS, After he retired in 2002 from Chicago's Department of Streets and Sanitation, he served his community as a member of the Richton Park Human Rights Commission for three years; and

26

27

28

29

WHEREAS, The passing of William A. Williams has been deeply felt by many, especially his wife, Yvonne; his daughters, Debra

30

1 Williams (Derrick) and Rachel Brooks; his son, Mark Williams
2 (Addie); his grandsons, Derrick Jr., and Eric; his
3 granddaughter, Danielle; his brothers, Fred Jr. (Eunice),
4 James (Kathryn), Clyde, Lamarr, and Darius; his father-in-law
5 and mother-in-law, James and Hazel Williams; his
6 sister-in-law, Karen; his brothers-in-law, Tony and Tory; his
7 nieces and nephews; and his many other relatives and good
8 friends; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
11 William A. "Bill" Williams, and we extend our sincere
12 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
13 him; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to his family as an expression of our deepest
16 sympathy.