



SR0386

LRB095 13976 KXB 39789 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Michael "Mike" L. Eckhard Sr., 87, the famous "Golfman" of Alton, who passed away on September 28, 2007; and

3

4

5

6

WHEREAS, Michael L. Eckhard Sr. was born May 29, 1920, in Alton to August and Emma (Nolan) Eckhard; he married the former Mary Halbert on November 14, 1947, in Alton; and she passed away on February 2, 1997; and

7

8

9

10

WHEREAS, He served his country from 1942 to 1945 during World War II, where he received the Bronze Star; and

11

12

WHEREAS, He was instrumental in rebuilding a golf course while serving in Reims, France; he was a golf caddie during the 1920s and 1930s, and was the Alton city golf champion in 1941 and 1942; he gave golf lessons to the local community, was a registered golf professional with the PGA, and played amateur and professional-level golf; and

13

14

15

16

17

18

WHEREAS, He owned and operated the Golfman Golf Shop in Alton and worked for Laclede Steel for 33 years until retiring in 1980 as a master machinist; he was a gallon blood donor with Laclede and a member of the Golf Collector's Society and the

19

20

21

1 Greater Alton Retired Caddie's Association; and

2 WHEREAS, Michael "Mike" L. Eckhard Sr. is survived by his  
3 children and their spouses, Patricia Eckhard, Michael and Mary  
4 Eckhard Jr., Rob and Barb Eckhard, Andy Eckhard, Martie and  
5 Mike Anderson, and Joe Eckhard; his grandchildren, Adam, Amy,  
6 Gloria, Beth, David, Benjamin, Israel "Alex", and Rachel; his  
7 step-grandchildren, Ryan, Kyle and Josh; his  
8 great-grandchildren; his loving sister, Bertha "Birdie" Byron;  
9 and many nieces and nephews; besides his wife, he was preceded  
10 in death by his parents; one brother, Nolan; and five sisters,  
11 Agnes, Florence, Augusta, Virginia, and Josephine; therefore,  
12 be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL  
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with  
15 his family and friends, the passing of Michael "Mike" L.  
16 Eckhard Sr.; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18 presented to the family of Michael L. Eckhard Sr. as a symbol  
19 of our sincere sympathy.