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SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Eugene A. (Gene) Bonk of Bristol, who passed away on August 9, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Eugene A. Bonk was born on July 11, 1922 in Chicago; his parents were Joseph and Louise (Rogas) Bonk; and

WHEREAS, Eugene A. Bonk was a proud Army Veteran of World War II, serving in Europe with the 61st Coast Artillery; he fought on Omaha Beach during D-Day and saw action in Holland, St. Lo, the Battle of the Bulge, Liege, and Maastricht, for which he was awarded three Bronze Stars; and

WHEREAS, After his discharge from the Army as a Battalion Sergeant Major Master Sergeant, Eugene A. Bonk was hired by the General Electric Company in Chicago and Aurora, where he worked for 25 years; after leaving General Electric, he worked for the Leonardi Furniture Company, and then for Englewood Electric, where he retired in 1985; and

WHEREAS, During his retirement years, Eugene A. Bonk ran "Surplus Sales" for the Industrial Motor Service Company; he was also a member and past president of Fox Valley Purchasing Agents; and

1           WHEREAS, Eugene A. Bonk was a life-time member of the  
2 Roosevelt Aurora Post 84 American Legion, where he served as  
3 the post's Chaplain since 1964, and a member of the VFW  
4 Montgomery Post 7452; he also served as a member, lector, and  
5 usher of St. Peter's Church in Aurora; and

6           WHEREAS, Eugene A. Bonk was preceded in death by his  
7 parents; his stepmother, Sophie (Budzynski) Bonk; his  
8 daughter, Judith; and his siblings, Joseph, Stanley, and Edwin  
9 Bonk, Victoria Bilecki, and Carolyn Suwanski; and

10           WHEREAS, Eugene A. Bonk is survived by his beloved wife of  
11 62 years, Jane; his daughters, Beverly Elleby and Susan (John)  
12 Lauder; his sons, John (Mary Ellen) and James (Estela  
13 Fernandez); his grandchildren, Kristy, Kory, and Karleen  
14 Elleby, Jacob and Nicole Bonk, and Gregory Lauder; his  
15 great-grandchildren, Lane and Clayton Elleby; his sister,  
16 Marian (Ed) Lazicki; and his several nieces and nephews;  
17 therefore, be it

18           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL  
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with  
20 his family and friends, the passing of Eugene A. (Gene) Bonk;  
21 and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to the family of Eugene A. Bonk as an expression of  
3 our sympathy.