



SR0322

LRB096 13226 GRL 27885 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Lawrence Alan Gregory, formerly of Naperville, who passed away on May 6, 2009; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, Lawrence Gregory was born in 1928; he was the youngest of six children born to Harry and Gretchen Gregory; he lived on the family farm, which is now home to the Fox Valley Shopping Center; and

6

7

8

9

WHEREAS, Lawrence Gregory graduated from Naperville High School in 1947; he attended the University of Illinois for one semester before deciding to transfer to North Central College, where he continued to have ties for many years; and

10

11

12

13

WHEREAS, Lawrence Gregory met Charmaine Cakora at the local roller skating rink; the pair married in 1952; in 1954, he decided to leave farming and open up his own electrical contracting company, Gregory Electric, Inc.; under the company motto of "Let Larry light it", Gregory Electric, Inc. flourished, employing over 100 employees at one point; and

14

15

16

17

18

19

WHEREAS, Lawrence Gregory enjoyed farming and all the hard work and challenges it presented; he also enjoyed electrical projects, eventually wiring his first home at age 16; he was

20

21

1 also an active member of 4-H and was once selected to attend
2 the 4-H National Congress; and

3 WHEREAS, Lawrence Gregory served as a volunteer for
4 countless community projects and service organizations,
5 including the Board of Trustees at Edward Hospital, North
6 Central College, and Grace United Methodist Church; he served
7 as president of the Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce, a
8 member of the Naperville Planning Commission, and a member of
9 the Naperville Zoning Board of Appeals; he served on the
10 Naperville Riverwalk Commission and coordinated various stages
11 of the riverwalk's construction; he served as President of the
12 Rotary Club of Naperville and served on the board of the
13 Wheatland Plowing Match Association; he also served on the
14 Naperville YMCA Board of Directors; he especially enjoyed
15 getting involved in "hands on" projects such as the Riverwalk,
16 Safety Town, the construction of Grace UMC, and the North
17 Central College athletic facility; and

18 WHEREAS, Lawrence Gregory was recognized as a
19 distinguished alumnus from the NHS Class of '47; he was
20 inducted into the Hall of Fame at North Central College and
21 received their outstanding alumnus award in 1977; in 2005, he
22 was selected to receive the Life Achievement Award by the
23 Jaycees and was honored by being named one of Naperville's 25
24 Most Influential People; due to his contributions and

1 leadership in building the outdoor athletic facility, Mr.
2 Gregory and his wife were both honored by North Central College
3 with the dedication of the Gregory Arena in the Merner Field
4 House; and

5 WHEREAS, In his spare time, Lawrence Gregory enjoyed the
6 sport of water skiing; his talent led him to teach hundreds of
7 his friends and relatives to ski and love the sport as he did;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Lawrence Gregory is survived by his wife,
10 Charmaine; his children, Michael (Diane) Gregory, Dean (Sindy)
11 Gregory, Jeffrey Gregory of, and Pamela (Allen) Carius; and his
12 14 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
15 his family and friends, the passing of Lawrence Alan Gregory;
16 and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the family of Lawrence Gregory as an expression of
19 our sympathy.