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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Charles Merritts, Jr., who passed away on January 23, 2010; and

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WHEREAS, Charles Merritts, Jr. was born on September 23, 1935, in East St. Louis; his parents were Charles Merritts, Sr. and Geneva Stokes Merritts; and

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WHEREAS, Charles Merritts, Jr. attended Dunbar Elementary and Carver Elementary Schools before graduating from Lincoln High School in 1953; he then earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics from Wiley College in Marshall, Texas in 1957; while at Wiley College, he played baseball and pledged with the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, joining the fraternity's Alpha Chic Chapter on November 27, 1954; he remained a devoted Kappa for 55 years; and

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WHEREAS, Charles Merritts, Jr. served as a math and science teacher at Rock Junior High School in East St. Louis for 10 years; he then resigned from his position and joined an established family business; and

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WHEREAS, Charles Merritts, Jr. enjoyed big game hunting, fishing, bowling, archery, sharpshooting, trap and skeet

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1 shooting, and golfing; he also loved the blues and enjoyed
2 singing and playing his guitar at home; and

3 WHEREAS, Charles Merritts, Jr. was a member of numerous
4 social and civic organizations, including the Anniversary
5 Club, the Derby Brown Memorial Golf Club, the Pro Eights, the
6 Aahmes Temple #132, and the Southern Cross Lodge #112; and

7 WHEREAS, Charles Merritts, Jr. was preceded in death by his
8 mother; and

9 WHEREAS, Charles Merritts, Jr. is survived by his loving
10 wife of 58 years, Delores; his son, Charles Merritts III; his
11 daughter, Kimberly Delores Merritts; his father; his grandson,
12 Courtney Merritts; his aunt, Delores S. Merritts; his
13 sisters-in-law, Barbara Holt (Rev. Edward) and Rev. Jacqueline
14 (Baseball Hall of Famer Lou Brock); his brother-in-law, Billy
15 Gaitor (Mary); and his many other relatives and friends;
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
19 his family and friends, the passing of Charles Merritts, Jr.;
20 and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the family of Charles Merritts, Jr. as an
2 expression of our sympathy.