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LRB098 22228 GRL 61103 r

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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 Era Eugene "Gene" Callahan of Springfield, who passed away on August 4, 2014; and

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WHEREAS, Era Callahan was born on November 5, 1933 in Milford; his parents were Joe and Helen Meyer Callahan; his father, an active Democrat and Illinois State Representative, introduced him to politics and his way of life; and

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WHEREAS, Era Callahan served his country as a member of the United States Army in Germany from 1956 to 1957; and

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WHEREAS, Era Callahan was a graduate of Illinois College in Jacksonville, where he played baseball and met his future wife; he married Antoinette "Ann" Hammond on October 26, 1957; and

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WHEREAS, Era Callahan began his career as a political reporter for the Illinois State Register, the predecessor to the State Journal-Register, where he wrote a daily political column called Callagrams for many years; he later left journalism to become deputy press secretary to Governors Samuel H. Shapiro and Otto Kerner, eventually serving Lt. Governor Paul Simon; he served as director of communications for City Water Light and Power for the City of Springfield; he served as

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1 United States Senator Alan Dixon's Chief of Staff during his
2 years as Illinois State Treasurer, Secretary of State, and
3 Senator; he also served as the director of Government Relations
4 for Major League Baseball and served on the board of trustees
5 for Southern Illinois University; and

6 WHEREAS, Era Callahan was preceded in death by his parents;
7 a brother, Fran; a sister, Jody Pruitt; and a son, Daniel
8 "Coach Cal" Callahan; and

9 WHEREAS, Era Callahan is survived by his wife, Ann; 2
10 daughters, Lynn (Al) Riddley and United States Representative
11 Cheri (Gerry) Bustos; a daughter-in-law, Stacy Callahan; 7
12 grandchildren, Brad and Chrissy Ruppert, Tony, Nick, and Joey
13 Bustos, and Alexa and Carly Callahan; and a sister, Neta
14 (Myron) Erdman; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with his
17 family and friends, mourn the passing of Era Eugene "Gene"
18 Callahan; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the family of Era Callahan as an expression of our
21 sympathy.