



HJ0048

LRB104 16542 ECR 29940 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that the Illinois General
3 Assembly pays honor and respect to those individuals who have
4 given their lives in service to their country; and

5 WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Russell Rowe was born to Fred and
6 Dorothy (Lazzaroni) Rowe on October 7, 1944, and he was the
7 beloved brother of Richard Rowe, Robert Rowe, Anita Rowe, and
8 Kathleen (Rowe) Christian; and

9 WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Rowe graduated from Steinmetz High
10 School in Chicago in 1961; he then enlisted in the United
11 States Marine Corps, advancing to the rank of lance corporal
12 in 1962; and

13 WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Rowe served in 1st Company B, 6th
14 Marine Division, which was among the first wave of American
15 troops deployed to the Dominican Republic during the 1965
16 intervention to evacuate American citizens and restore
17 stability; and

18 WHEREAS, On April 30, 1965, during a machine-gun ambush in
19 Santo Domingo, Lance Corporal Rowe sustained severe and
20 multiple gunshot wounds to both his legs, both his arms, and
21 his abdomen but continued to fight valiantly in the defense of

1 freedom and the protection of American lives; and

2 WHEREAS, Despite undergoing major surgeries, including the
3 amputation of both his legs, and receiving life-sustaining
4 treatment at Walter Reed Army Hospital, Lance Corporal Rowe
5 ultimately passed away due to complications from pneumonia
6 related to his injuries on June 19, 1965, with his mother and
7 his fiancée by his side; and

8 WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Rowe had only four months
9 remaining in his enlistment, and he hoped to marry his fiancée
10 and pursue a career in dentistry following his military
11 service; and

12 WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Rowe was awarded the Bronze Star
13 and the Purple Heart in recognition of his heroism, valor, and
14 sacrifice; and

15 WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Rowe was laid to rest at Mount
16 Olivet Memorial Park in Zion, where his memory continues to be
17 honored by his family, friends, and fellow service members;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, The family of Lance Corporal Rowe and the
20 community of Zion have respectfully requested that the State
21 of Illinois designate a portion of highway in his honor,

1 ensuring that future generations remember his courage and
2 devotion to duty; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
4 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
5 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate Illinois Route 131
6 from the state line south to Illinois Route 173 as the "Lance
7 Corporal Russell Rowe Memorial Highway"; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Transportation
9 is requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with
10 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs
11 giving notice of the name "Lance Corporal Russell Rowe
12 Memorial Highway"; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
14 presented to the family of Lance Corporal Rowe and the
15 Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation.