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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 George Edward Manning II of the Austin neighborhood of Chicago, who passed away on January 13, 2025; and

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WHEREAS, George Manning was the oldest of two children born to Jamesia and George Edward Manning Sr. in Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, George Manning attended the March on Washington with his father when he was in elementary school after traveling by train to DC; and

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WHEREAS, George Manning grew up studying painting, anatomy, figure drawing, sculpture, printmaking, and ceramics at the Art Institute of Chicago; he received a degree in Russian studies from Ripon College and advanced degrees in piano performance and pedagogy from Roosevelt University and the University of Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, George Manning played violin in an orchestra full of young gifted musicians at Northwestern University; he also played the piano for three United States presidents; and

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WHEREAS, George Manning played the organ at the Washington

1 Cathedral, Grace Episcopal Church in Oak Park, Grace Lutheran  
2 Church in River Forest, the Westminster Abbey Pipe Organ in  
3 London, England, and the First Congregational Baptist Church  
4 in Chicago; and

5 WHEREAS, George Manning presented 40 scholars each year at  
6 a scholarship cotillion, teaching them etiquette, helping them  
7 practice for the ACT and SAT, and teaching them dance and  
8 piano; and

9 WHEREAS, George Manning enjoyed coordinating activities of  
10 film production crews shooting scenes at the Psychiatry  
11 Institute; he helped establish shooting sites for the film  
12 Hardball, featuring Keanu Reeves; and

13 WHEREAS, George Manning worked at the Department of Mental  
14 Health and Developmental Disabilities, focusing on autistic  
15 children with the agency program called Fall Between the Crack  
16 Youth; he was also an administrator for the University of  
17 Illinois Chicago Psychiatric Institute and served on the board  
18 of directors for the Alliance for the Mentally Ill Greater  
19 Chicago; and

20 WHEREAS, George Manning was the founder, president, or  
21 member of several Chicago neighborhood associations, including  
22 the Austin Schock Historical Association and the Society of

1 Midway Park, and he was a panelist on the Chicago Department of  
2 Cultural Affairs, regarding Preserving Landmarks and  
3 Preserving Community; and

4 WHEREAS, George Manning restored his 18-room Victorian  
5 home, which has been named a Chicago historical landmark,  
6 making it a mainstay on the annual Austin Schock housewalk for  
7 years; and

8 WHEREAS, George Manning enjoyed visiting his homes in  
9 Switzerland and North Africa during September and October and  
10 traveling to other places such as England, Italy, and France  
11 when he could; and

12 WHEREAS, George Manning devoted his time and energy to the  
13 leadership and membership of First Immanuel Lutheran Church,  
14 where his family has served and worshiped since 1954; he was  
15 one of the organists and helped with coordinating special  
16 events and designing the costumes for the annual Christmas  
17 pageant; and

18 WHEREAS, George Edward Manning is survived by his niece,  
19 Marie Anita Bell; his great-niece, Salina Simone; his  
20 God-mother, Fredonia Bey; his cousins, Carol A. Jones, Michael  
21 B. Jones, Victoria Jones, Monet Branch, Sylvia Williams, Bryan  
22 B. Cox, Stewart A. Cox, Rodney Jackson, Theresa A. Clay,

1 Jessica A. Simmons, and Marc A. Rodgers; his honorary  
2 God-children; his First Immanuel Church Family; and numerous  
3 neighbors and friends; therefore, be it

4       RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL  
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
6 George Edward Manning II and extend our sincere condolences to  
7 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
8 further

9       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
10 presented to the family of George Manning as an expression of  
11 our deepest sympathy.