



SR1138

LRB101 21360 MST 71981 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 Dr. Robert J. Schafer of Petersburg, who passed away on May 12, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Schafer was born in Wheeling, West Virginia to Walter E. and Matilda (Schmidt) Schafer on June 20, 1929; he completed undergraduate and medical school at Saint Louis University and married Harriet Moore on June 11, 1955; he received his medical license in 1956; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Schafer served with the U.S. Navy in Hastings, Nebraska until he and his wife moved to Petersburg in 1959; opening a medical practice at the Menard Medical Center, he served as a family medical physician until his retirement in 1997; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Schafer also spent 24 years with the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation (Department of Financial and Professional Regulations) as the medical coordinator for downstate Illinois; he also served as the chairman of the Medical Records Department for Memorial Medical Center in Springfield for almost 25 years; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Schafer retired in 2015, and Governor Bruce

1 Rauner recognized him with an Illinois State Medical
2 Disciplinary Board Resolution; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Schafer was inducted into the Petersburg PORTA
4 Foundation Hall of Fame in March 2018 for his community service
5 and volunteerism; he was a past president of the PORTA School
6 Board, supported the PTA, and was a member of the Foundation
7 Board; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Schafer was affectionately known to family and
9 friends as "Doc", "Bob", or "Pop" and had a high energy for
10 life and living; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Schafer was preceded in death by his wife of
12 48 years, Harriet; his daughter, Mary Thurnau; his parents; and
13 his sister, Helen Gantzer Stenger; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Schafer is survived by his children, Mark (Jo)
15 Schafer, Mike Schafer, Bo (Carol) Schafer, Gina (Chuck)
16 Woodrum, Ann (Kip) Strasma, and Tim (Paige) Schafer; his
17 grandchildren, Jessica (Craig) Burnside, Logan (Kristy)
18 Schafer, Caryln (Clayton) Craig, April (Chris) Cox, Jolori
19 (Evan) Thurman, Nick (Erin) Schafer, Lauren (Brent) Kulavic,
20 Claire Schafer, Lindsay (Mitch) Wissmiller, Christy Woodrum,
21 Madalynn Woodrum, and Taylor and Ashley Schafer; 16
22 great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and extended

1 family; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
4 Dr. Robert J. Schafer and extend our sincere condolences to his
5 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to the family of Dr. Schafer as an expression of our
9 deepest sympathy.