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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 Donald James "Don" Sproul of East Moline; and

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WHEREAS, Don Sproul was born in Dixon to Clarence and Frances (Blimling) Sproul on July 8, 1932; he graduated from Dixon High School in 1950, where he participated in football, basketball, track, and golf and was a class officer and recipient of the American Legion Award; he graduated from Western Illinois Teachers College (Western Illinois University) in 1954 with a bachelor's degree in education and double minor in business; while there, he was a member of the Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity and participated in many social and intramural activities; and

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WHEREAS, Don Sproul served two years with the United States Army, where he spent 16 months in Alaska; he achieved the rank of sergeant, and in October 2015, he had the privilege of being part of an Honor Flight to Washington D.C.; and

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WHEREAS, Don Sproul worked for John Deere Harvester Works in East Moline; he then worked as a sales engineer at Johnson Refrigeration (Johnson Mechanical) for nine years; after that, he worked for Bliss Eagle Signal as the plant engineer; and

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1 WHEREAS, Don Sproul joined Black Hawk College as Director
2 of Facilities, and in addition to holding this position, he
3 worked five years as the director for the hiring of
4 non-certified personnel; during his tenure, the construction
5 of the Moline campus was completed, and he was instrumental in
6 the construction of the Black Hawk East Campus in Kewanee; he
7 retired from Black Hawk College in 1996 and worked as a
8 substitute teacher; and

9 WHEREAS, Don Sproul served on the East Moline Planning and
10 Zoning Commission for 50 years, 45 of them as chairman; he was
11 recognized as the longest-serving volunteer for the city of
12 East Moline at 57 years; he served on the United Township Board
13 of Education for over 37 years, serving as president twice; as
14 a member of the Illinois Association of School Boards, he
15 served as chairman of the Black Hawk Division, which includes
16 28 school districts; and

17 WHEREAS, Don Sproul was an avid supporter of United
18 Township; he and Nancy were seen at almost every scholastic,
19 music, and sporting event; he was also chairman of the East
20 Moline Pool Board for 10 years; and

21 WHEREAS, Don Sproul was a member of the First Presbyterian
22 Church in East Moline; he was a former member of the Elks Club,

1 where he and Nancy enjoyed going for dinner and dancing on
2 Saturday nights; he was a member of the East Moline Silvis
3 Rotary Club and the American Legion; he was past president of
4 the East Moline-Silvis Jaycees and a past member of the Willow
5 Springs Swimming Club, where he served on the board; and

6 WHEREAS, Don Sproul received the Denny Jacobs Public
7 Servant Award in 1996 in recognition of his long-standing
8 commitment to the community; for his entire life, he was a
9 dedicated community servant and gave freely of his time and
10 talents, working to make his community a better place to live
11 for all; and

12 WHEREAS, Don Sproul and Nancy were avid fans of the
13 Chicago Cubs; they traveled to Arizona for Spring Training and
14 to Wrigley Field three to four times a season; and

15 WHEREAS, Don Sproul took great joy in his children's and
16 grandchildren's academic achievements and sports activities;
17 although usually not talkative, he could give hilarious
18 one-liners; he loved golf, playing poker, and traveling with
19 Nancy for many years; for 10 years, they wintered in Texas and
20 eight in Florida; they enjoyed entertaining, and their home
21 was always a welcoming place, overflowing with good times; and

22 WHEREAS, Don Sproul lived in his home for 48 years before

1 moving to Summit Ridge Condos, where he served as treasurer
2 and as board president; and

3 WHEREAS, Don Sproul was the husband of 63 years of Nancy
4 (Wallick); the father of children, Betsy and Peter (Beth)
5 Sproul; the grandfather of Robert, James, and Peter Jr.; and
6 the brother of Robert; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
9 Donald James "Don" Sproul and extend our sincere condolences
10 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be
11 it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the family of Don Sproul as an expression of our
14 deepest sympathy.