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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened 3 to learn of the death of Jesse Lewis Formhals, who passed away 4 on October 23, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Jesse Formhals was born on a farm in Pontiac to Carl and Caroline (Dietrich) Formhals on July 12, 1933; he graduated from Ottawa High School; he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was stationed in Alaska as a meteorologist; and

WHEREAS, After his service, Jesse Formhals worked for Libby Owens Ford in Ottawa making windshields for cars; he then became a welder for Caterpillar in Joliet and later attended DeVry Institute in Chicago to study electronics; following graduation, he worked at Argonne National Laboratory for over 30 years, where he developed equipment to monitor radiation levels; and

WHEREAS, Jesse Formhals enjoyed spending time with his family in Wisconsin at their cottage on Lake Delavan during retirement; he loved taking boat rides with his grandkids on his pontoon; he was a jack of all trades and the handyman of the family; he could frequently be found tinkering with cars, working on home rehab projects, or keeping up with the latest

- 1 tech advancements; he appreciated the simple things in life, a
- 2 cup of McDonald's coffee, a slice of Giordano's deep-dish
- 3 pizza, and a slice of cherry pie to satisfy his immense sweet
- 4 tooth; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Jesse Formhals was kind, patient, and selfless;
- 6 he was a devoted husband who lovingly cared for his wife,
- 7 Gloria; as a dad, he exemplified the meaning of unwavering
- 8 love and taught his children many life lessons; he was their
- 9 biggest supporter and was adored as "pa", "papa", and "poppy";
- 10 he loved cheering on his grandkids at their special events and
- 11 was frequently their "phone a friend" for homework help in
- 12 math and science; his Catholic faith was at the center of his
- 13 life; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Jesse Formhals was preceded in death by his
- parents; his sisters, Dorothea Formhals and Rolene (Owen)
- 16 Posner; his granddaughter, Jessica Mae Formhals; and his
- 17 brother, Carl (Charlotte) Formhals; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Jesse Formhals is survived by his wife of 63
- 19 years, Gloria (Girardo) Formhals; his son, Joe Formhals (Ann
- 20 Santoro); his daughter, Mary C. (Clarence) Vogel; his
- 21 grandchildren, Nicole Formhals (Kendrick Davis), Emma Vogel,
- 22 Kate Formhals, and Tim Formhals; his sister-in-law, Barbara
- 23 (Girardo) Gustafson; his cousin, Judith Roe; and his niece,

SR0597

- 1 Laurie Apple; therefore, be it
- 2 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
- 3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
- 4 Jesse Lewis Formhals 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 Jesse Formhals as an expression of
- 9 our deepest sympathy.