



SR0801

LRB095 21894 GRL 52161 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 James Graves of Peoria, who passed away on July 13, 2008; and

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WHEREAS, James Graves was born on May 16, 1954 in Peoria; his parents were Clifford and Gloria (Deluhery) Graves; he married Patricia "Patti" Button on September 11, 1976; and

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WHEREAS, James Graves was a graduate of Richwoods High School; after graduation, he followed the family tradition, becoming a member of Local 17 Heat and Frost Insulators for 30 years; and

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WHEREAS, James Graves was an active member of the Peoria County Democrats and served as an elected Peoria County Precinct Committeeman; and

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WHEREAS, James Graves was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, where he founded and organized the Men's Club smokers and coached soccer at the grade school long after his children were grown; he also served as president and board member of the WKRR Neighborhood Association for more than a decade; and

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1           WHEREAS, Living according to the motto "it's nice to be  
2 nice", James Graves drove patients to treatment through the  
3 Road to Recovery volunteer program and was a mentor to many at  
4 the Cancer Center for Healthy Living; he spoke as a patient  
5 advocate at oncology conferences, inspiring others with his  
6 determination, education, and practical, no-nonsense advice;  
7 he was awarded the American Cancer Society's 2007 Outstanding  
8 Health Initiatives Volunteer Award in recognition of his work;  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, James Graves was preceded in death by his father  
11 and his brother; and

12           WHEREAS, James Graves is survived by his wife; his  
13 children, Jamie Lynne and Ryan Patrick; his mother; and his  
14 sisters, Nancy (Steve) Luenz, Kathy (Bill) Graves, Mary Ann  
15 (Steve) Jostad and Sue Graves; and

16           WHEREAS, James Graves will be remembered by all who knew  
17 and loved him as a dedicated and loving father and husband  
18 whose wit, verve, and big heart made him a treasured  
19 personality in the community; therefore, be it

20           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL  
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with  
22 his family and friends, the passing of James Graves; and be it

1 further

2 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
3 presented to the family of James Graves as an expression of our  
4 sympathy.