



SR1201

LRB099 15026 MST 39228 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 Ernest "Del" Beckstrand of Paxton, who passed away on October 13, 2015; and

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WHEREAS, Del Beckstrand was born in Paxton on October 10, 1923 to Ernest R. and Mabel Larson Beckstrand; he graduated from Paxton High School in 1942 and was a Staff Sergeant in the United States Army during World War II, stationed in California with the 11th Armored Division; he attended the University of Nevada in Reno under the Army ASTP program, where he became a combat engineer and was sent to Louisiana to the 1253rd Combat Engineers; he was sent overseas and saw action in France and on the Rhine River in Germany under General Patton; he was awarded 3 Battle Stars; he married Virginia (Motley) Swanson on June 15, 1961 in Kewanee; and

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WHEREAS, Del Beckstrand worked as a painter for Frank Salvage, Virgil Anderson, and Al Kingren Construction; later, he went to work at Chanute Air Force Base in the carpenter shop, retiring in 1985; and

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WHEREAS, Del Beckstrand was a past commander of American Legion Post 150 in Paxton and was a member of the Veterans of Foreign War Post No. 4214 and the Moose Lodge of Rantoul; he

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1 was a member of First Lutheran Church of Paxton, where he
2 served on the church board for a number of years and was a
3 Trustee on the cemetery board; and

4 WHEREAS, Del Beckstrand was preceded in death by his wife,
5 Virginia; and

6 WHEREAS, Del Beckstrand is survived by his daughter, Nancy
7 (Hansel) Gillis; his stepdaughter, Christine Lindstrom; his
8 grandson; his granddaughter; and his step-granddaughter;
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
12 Ernest "Del" Beckstrand, and extend our sincere condolences to
13 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
14 further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to the family of Del Beckstrand as an expression of
17 our deepest sympathy.