

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 124

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Jerry Lee Sharp of LaFollette.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Jerry Lee Sharp; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sharp was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Lee Sharp was born on July 2, 1932, to Russell and Gladys Sharp; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Hiwassee College, Mr. Sharp began his career at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. He later worked at the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, where he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work before retiring after forty-two years of service; and

WHEREAS, the first curator of the Campbell County Historical Society Museum and Library, Jerry Sharp loved giving tours through his beloved museum. He received the WBIR Jefferson Award in 2002 for his work establishing and improving the museum and library; and

WHEREAS, actively involved in the community, Mr. Sharp was a devout member of the First Presbyterian Church of LaFollette, and he was a member of various organizations, including the Campbell County Library Board, Campbell County Chamber of Commerce, the Campbell County Masonic Lodge 778, Kerbela Shrine Temple, Jacksboro Eastern Star, the "First Families of Tennessee," and the "First Farms of Tennessee"; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Sharp received his pilot's license in 1964 and loved everything about aviation. In addition, he enjoyed boating, skiing, and visiting Norris Lake, and he operated a

ham radio for more than seventy years. He was an avid historian who enjoyed sharing patriotic stories and helping others to discover their family ancestry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sharp was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated family man, Mr. Sharp was preceded in death by his parents, Russell and Gladys Sharp; his aunts and uncle, Sarah, Gladys, and Silas Sharp, who raised him; his sister and her husband, Peggy Sharp McFadden and James Norman McFadden; and his brother-in-law, David W. Lumpkins; and

WHEREAS, his memory will be cherished by his loving wife of fifty-seven years, Anne Dove James Sharp; his daughters, Lee Anne Sharp (Bob) Weaver and Jamie L. Sharp; his grandchildren, who he loved with all his heart, Sarah Anne Marie Staley, Matthew Sharp Weaver, and Katherine Elizabeth Weaver; and his sister-in-law, Earnie James Lumpkins; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sharp leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Jerry Lee Sharp, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, and express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Sharp.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.