

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 168

BY SENATOR FOIL

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of James Hardy "Jimmy" Gill Jr., and to honor his life of service, faith, and extraordinary contributions to his community, state, and country.

WHEREAS, it is with deep sorrow that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana learned of the passing of James Hardy "Jimmy" Gill Jr., a faithful servant of Christ, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, veteran, attorney, businessman, educator, and minister, on June 13, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Gill was born in Baton Rouge on December 4, 1937, and educated primarily in the Catholic school system, before graduating from Baton Rouge High School in 1955, where he was voted "Class Wit"; and

WHEREAS, he served honorably in the United States Marine Corps, both in active duty and reserves. Stationed primarily in Hawaii from 1957 to 1958, he achieved the rank of corporal, and was honorably discharged in 1963; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy earned a Bachelor of Science in Business from Louisiana State University in 1961 and a Juris Doctorate from Loyola Law School in 1964, marking the beginning of a distinguished and diverse professional career; and

WHEREAS, he practiced law in Baton Rouge, working at different times with notable partners such as Frank Foil, Don Beckner, and Larry Bankston, in a decades-long practice specializing in international engineering, procurement and construction contracts, administrative law, construction and product project development, multinational project financing, contract negotiations and administration, state and federal government relations, and pre-litigation dispute resolution; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy also served in management roles in business and banking, both domestically and internationally, including as a construction trade association executive with BRICA, founding and leading two construction and maintenance firms, ORET and TeroTechnology, and serving as president of Anglo-American Bank Shares and director of Baton Rouge Bank and Trust; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy transitioned into academia in the 1990s, serving as an adjunct professor and later as the Contractors Educational Trust Fund Endowed Chair in the Department of Construction Management at LSU, where he influenced countless students and received national recognition for excellence in teaching; and

WHEREAS, he was honored with numerous accolades, including the 2003 W.A. Klinger Outstanding Educator Award and the 2003 AGC Outstanding Educator Award, underscoring his enduring impact on the education community; and

WHEREAS, throughout his remarkable life, Jimmy remained steadfast in his Christian faith, having come to salvation through the grace of God on December 21, 1974, and was ordained as a minister through the Berean Bible Fellowship in 1991; and

WHEREAS, his heart for ministry was evident in his service to retirement communities and as president of Radio Bible Courses, Ltd., sharing the gospel and teaching scripture with humility, conviction, and passion; and

WHEREAS, he is remembered with deep affection by his beloved wife of more than sixty-two years, Barbara Elaine Pruyn Gill, his children, James Hardy "Buddy" Gill III, and Laura Elaine Gill Showalter and her husband, Brian, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, many life-long friends, and all who were blessed to know him; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Gill's Christ-centered life reflects the timeless values of faith, integrity, leadership, and service, and his legacy will continue to inspire those who follow in his footsteps, both personally and professionally.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere condolences to the family and friends of James Hardy "Jimmy" Gill Jr., and celebrates the life and memory of a man whose faithful service, exemplary leadership, and enduring love for Christ and his fellow man have left an indelible mark upon Louisiana and the world.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of James Hardy Gill Jr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE