

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 68

BY SENATOR WALSWORTH

A RESOLUTION

To express the heartfelt and sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Lory Mayfield Frey Jr.

WHEREAS, it is with great sadness that the citizens and the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the death of Lory Mayfield Frey Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Lory Mayfield Frey Jr. was born in Haynesville, Louisiana, on September 21, 1923, to Lorry Mayfield Frey Sr. and Thelma Miller Frey; and

WHEREAS, education was the study and work of Mr. Frey's life, beginning with his high school education at Ouachita Parish High School, graduating in 1940 and then attending the New Mexico Military Institute; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his pursuit of a life-long work in education, Mr. Frey served his country during World War II in the famed 3rd Infantry Division and traveled to Naples, Italy, where he found himself in the Anzio campaign and spent sixty days in a foxhole being shelled night and day, then spent two-and-a-half years in the European Theatre where he was "on loan" for a short period of time to the French Fourth Army; and

WHEREAS, he was the recipient of the prestigious Croix de Guerre medal, he received a Combat Infantryman Badge, a Presidential Unit Citation, and numerous other awards, medals and ribbons, and in 2001, the Consulate General of France in New Orleans honored him with a special plaque and citation for his part in the liberation of France; and

WHEREAS, after the war, Mr. Frey continued his education receiving his bachelor's degree in economics from Southern Methodist University where he was a member of Phi Delta Theta, then earned a master's degree in English from the University of Mississippi, and at one point was invited to Rowan Oak to meet William Faulkner; he earned his next degree, an Education Specialist degree, from the University of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, over the next forty-plus years, Mr. Frey continued on his path of educating the youth of Louisiana, always striving for excellence in education for the young people of Minden High School, Ouachita High School, Northeast Louisiana University, Riverfield Academy, Ridgedale Academy, and West Monroe High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Frey touched and influenced the lives of thousands of students, and mentored over sixty student teachers throughout his long and illustrious career in education, many of whom stayed in contact with him until his death, recounting their fond memories with him; and

WHEREAS, he is also credited with leading the charge at West Monroe High School, upon the urging of a group of his students, to form the first high school danceline in the state of Louisiana, and he was very proud to be the founding father of the now renowned Rebel Raiders which he recounted as not just a danceline, but an outlet for young women to participate in a sport that allowed them to showcase their athletic talents while teaching them the importance of poise and grace and the high standards of being a true lady; and

WHEREAS, his love of family and friends was always of the utmost importance to him in his life; he shared his unconditional love and his life of service and dedication with his family: his devoted and loving wife of sixty-one years, Bettye Acklin Frey, who preceded him in death; their cherished daughters, Lori and Lisa, and their families; his beloved grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews; "his girls" and the countless others he "adopted" as his family throughout his lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Frey maintained involvement in his community through various organizations; he was a former member of Memorial Methodist Church and until his death was an active member of the First United Methodist Church, where he served on multiple committees including the committee to establish a daycare center, a ministry of which he was quite proud; he was also a member of his beloved Anna Grace Noe Sunday School class where he and his wife Bettye shared much joy and many wonderful times; and

WHEREAS, because of his numerous accomplishments in public and private life, the death of Lory Mayfield Frey Jr. has left a void in his community and has created a genuine sense of profound sorrow for his friends and family; and

WHEREAS, Lory Mayfield Frey Jr. was a kind and gentle soul and upon his death the world lost a unique individual who left an indelible mark on the lives of all those who had the honor of being taught by him or the privilege of having known him; and

WHEREAS, Lory Mayfield Frey Jr. was the kind of person who represents what is good about Louisiana, a man of wisdom who used his talents, integrity, and passion to change his community, state and country for the better; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon people like Lory Mayfield Frey Jr. who dedicate themselves and their lives to educating our future generations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the extraordinary life of Lory Mayfield Frey Jr.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the daughters of Lory Mayfield Frey Jr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE