

2016 First Extraordinary Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

BY SENATOR WALSWORTH

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of James Donald "Don" Halsell.

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the  
3 death of James Donald "Don" Halsell.

4 WHEREAS, it is with great sadness that the citizens and the Legislature of Louisiana  
5 have learned of the passing of James Donald "Don" Halsell, on December 5, 2015; and

6 WHEREAS, James Donald "Don" Halsell was born on June 17, 1928, to John  
7 Clinton and Lisa Ann Marina Owens Halsell, who were early settlers in the White's Ferry  
8 community of West Monroe; and

9 WHEREAS, Don attended Crosley and Millsaps elementary schools and graduated  
10 from Ouachita Parish High School in 1945, and from Louisiana State University and  
11 Agricultural and Mechanical College in 1949 with a degree in business; and

12 WHEREAS, upon graduation, he moved to Dallas for two years to work for Blue  
13 Cross Insurance, but with encouragement from friends, he returned home to start a  
14 four-decade long career in purchasing, retiring as the purchasing manager at the Brown  
15 Paper Mill (now Graphic Packaging International) in 1994; and

16 WHEREAS, as a teenager he joined Fair Park Baptist Church soon after its founding  
17 where he remained a member serving on numerous committees throughout his life; and

18 WHEREAS, Don Halsell was the kind of citizen who represents all that is good about

1 Louisiana, a man of wisdom who used his many talents, integrity, and passion for his  
2 community, parish, and state to change Louisiana and its citizens for the better; and

3 WHEREAS, his hobbies always became a "Great Family Adventure" revolving  
4 around his lifelong love of traveling, boating and water sports, which led to him earning his  
5 captain's license and owning, building, and rebuilding many vessels; and

6 WHEREAS, his love of his family was of the utmost importance in his life, and he  
7 was a caring and devoted husband and best friend to the love of his life, his wife of sixty-one  
8 years, Jean Bower Halsell; he was a cherished father to his two sons, Jim and Bob; he taught  
9 Jim to fly and was thrilled when he went on to follow a career as a United States Air Force  
10 pilot and then a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) astronaut; he  
11 encouraged Bob to enter medicine and watched him become an esteemed interventional  
12 radiologist with St. Francis Medical Center; and

13 WHEREAS, James Donald "Don" Halsell was a man of great strength and intellect,  
14 a caring individual who has left his mark in his community and the state of Louisiana; and

15 WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities,  
16 and the overall vitality of American society depend in great measure upon men like James  
17 Donald "Don" Halsell.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
19 express its sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the passing of James Donald "Don"  
20 Halsell.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
22 celebrate his extraordinary life and commend the rich legacy that James Donald "Don"  
23 Halsell leaves to the benefit of future generations and acknowledge a life well spent in the  
24 service of his community, his state, his country, and his God.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his  
26 wife, Jean Bower Halsell.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Tammy Crain Waldrop.

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DIGEST

SCR 9 Original

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Walsworth

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