

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 213

BY SENATOR SMITH

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Champagne family of St. Charles Parish as the most military family in America.

WHEREAS, Horace Champagne married Mary Catherine Ford in St. Charles Parish in 1923; and

WHEREAS, between 1923 and 1949, they produced fourteen children, twelve of whom served their country as members of various branches of the United States armed services; and

WHEREAS, son Harold J. Champagne served in the United States Navy during World War II and participated in six Allied Forces landings in the Pacific Theater under the direction of General Douglas MacArthur, and passed away in 2011; and

WHEREAS, daughter Pearl Champagne Lauret served in the United States Naval Reserve (Women's Reserve) better known as the WAVES during World War II, and passed away in 2018; and

WHEREAS, son Alvin Peter "Champ" Champagne served in the United States Army beginning in 1945 aboard an Army hospital ship, and passed away in 2015; and

WHEREAS, son Morris Joseph Champagne served in the United States Marine Corps with the 38th Infantry Regiment in the American Zone of Occupied Germany and in Korea during the Korean Conflict where he was killed in action at the Battle of Hoengsoeng in South Korea in February of 1951; and

WHEREAS, son Johnny Anthony Champagne served in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean Conflict, and passed away in 2017; and

WHEREAS, son Jerry Charles Champagne, served in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean Conflict, was stationed in Okinawa, Japan, and passed away in 2019; and

WHEREAS, son Horace Joseph Champagne Jr. served in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean Conflict, was stationed in Okinawa, Japan, and resides in Luling, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, son Charles James Champagne served in the United States Marine Corps from 1955 through 1957, and resides in Picayune, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, son Ronald Joseph Champagne served in the United States Navy from 1960 through 1962, and resides in Luling, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, son David Joseph Champagne served in the United States Army during the Vietnam Conflict from 1962 through 1964, and resides in Luling, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, son Anthony Raymond Champagne served in the United States Army during the Vietnam Conflict from 1963 through 1965, and resides in Bayou Gauche, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, son Thomas Eugene Champagne served in the United States Army during the Vietnam Conflict, was stationed in Germany, and resides in Luling, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs researched the historic records of military families throughout the United States, and could not find another family with more siblings that served their country than the Champagnes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on behalf of a grateful state and nation, the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Champagne family of St. Charles Parish for its patriotism and commitment to duty as the most military family in America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to all living children of Horace and Mary Catherine Ford Champagne, and St. Charles Parish Sheriff Greg Champagne, the son of Jerry Charles Champagne.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE