

A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of John Paul Runyon.

WHEREAS, John Paul Runyon was a son of this Commonwealth, born in Pikeville to the late John Auburn and Lyda McCoy Runyon; and

WHEREAS, John Paul Runyon proudly served his country in World War II as a member of the United States Navy; and

WHEREAS, John Paul Runyon was the Pike County Attorney and the Pike Commonwealth's Attorney for over 40 years. In his capacity as Commonwealth's Attorney he became iconic both in his home community and throughout Kentucky, and garnered a reputation for being one of the finest trial attorneys in this Commonwealth. Tenacious in the courtroom, Mr. Runyon was known both for his incredible knowledge about a vast array of topics and his fearlessness as a prosecutor; and

WHEREAS, John Paul Runyon was instrumental in making Commonwealth's Attorneys full-time attorneys rather than part-time, and he was a long-standing board member of the Prosecutors Advisory Council, a body formed in the 1970s that sought to "enhance professionalism and unity among prosecutors in the state"; and

WHEREAS, John Paul Runyon was also passionate about his home of Pike County, and he took pride in versing himself on the family connections and the myriad histories that would later help him to become a legend in his community; and

WHEREAS, John Paul Runyon was a member of the First Christian Church of Pikeville; and

WHEREAS, John Paul Runyon departed this earthly life on January 24, 2015, at the age of 90, leaving his family, friends, and all those whose lives he touched in Pike County and throughout this Commonwealth in solemn mourning; and

WHEREAS, John Paul Runyon was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Faith Phillips. He is survived by his wife, Joyce Cleghon Runyon, and his son, John Paul Runyon, Jr., and his wife, Monica;

NOW, THEREFORE,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔Section 1. The Senate hereby expresses its deepest and most profound condolences upon the passing of John Paul Runyon, and extends its heartfelt sympathy to his family, friends, and community in this time of loss.

➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving member of a Pike County legend, John Paul Runyon.

➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Senator Ray S. Jones II for delivery.