

A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor of Gary E. Johnson.

WHEREAS, Gary E. Johnson attended Alice Lloyd College and Berea College as an undergraduate, and was a proud graduate of the University of Kentucky College of Law; and

WHEREAS, Gary E. Johnson was a founding member of the University of Kentucky Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild; and

WHEREAS, Gary E. Johnson was a lifelong public defender, joining the Public Defender's Office as an intern before entering law school. He spent his career defending the indigent population of Appalachia, particularly those charged with capital offenses; and

WHEREAS, Gary E. Johnson was unafraid to take on difficult cases, and had a reputation for defending battered women who had killed their abusers. On one occasion he shielded his client with his own body to protect her from gunfire, and it was because of this selfless courage that he earned a reputation as both a fearless defender of the law and a consummate humanitarian who put his clients' goodwill before his own; and

WHEREAS, Gary E. Johnson departed from this earthly life on January 26, 2015, leaving in solemn mourning his family, friends, and all those clients whose lives he had impacted because of his skill, work ethic, and dedication; and

WHEREAS, Gary E. Johnson was preceded in death by his parents, Harve and Betty Jean See Johnson; his brothers, Bill and James Rodney Johnson; and his sisters, Elizabeth Ann Hall Johnson, Jacqueline Rae Creech, and Lillian Frances Frazier. He is survived by his sisters, Betty Frazier and Dorothy Jean Johnson; his niece, Rebecca Susan Johnson Downey; his nephew, Raymond Douglas Hall; his sweet girl, Ms. Buttons; and his best friend, R. Neal Walker;

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 Gary E. Johnson, 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 memory of Gary E. Johnson.

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