

A RESOLUTION adjourning the House of Representatives in honor and loving memory of Robert T. "Bob" Murrell.

WHEREAS, Bob Murrell was born in Louisville on May 19, 1916, the cherished son of the late Robert E. and Annie L. Murrell; and

WHEREAS, Bob Murrell was drafted into the United States Army on July 7, 1942, after previously serving with the Army Air Corps' 325th Observation Corps; and

WHEREAS, Bob Murrell courageously and honorably served his country with his beloved 80th Infantry Division. He served 274 continuous days in combat before his discharge in October 1946, and during his service he participated in combat missions in St. Suzanne and Sille Le Guillaume, where the 80th saw several casualties; in Argentan, where three days of heavy fighting ended with the 317th and 318th Infantry Divisions taking the city on August 21, 1944; and on the Moselle River, where Sergeant Murrell led his squad, penetrated the German line, and secured the enemy's ammunition without losing a single man; and

WHEREAS, Bob Murrell was the proud recipient of the Legion of Honour, the highest military decoration in France, two Silver Stars with V-clasp, the Army Air Corps Lapel Pin, the Army Air Corps Patch, the 318th Regimental Pin and 3rd Army Pin, a Bronze Star with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Good Conduct Medal, the Army Defense Medal, four Campaign Battle Stars, the German Occupation Medal, the Normandy Medal, the Ruptured Duck Pin, the Machine Gun Pin, and the 80th Infantry Division Pin; and

WHEREAS, after being discharged, Bob Murrell became one of the leading experts on the history of the 80th Infantry Division. He served as the national secretary, editor, and historian and was the past National Commander of the 80th Infantry Division Veterans' Association, and spent the last years of his life dedicated to helping the children of the men of the 80th and to teaching others about the incredible history of that division; and

WHEREAS, Bob Murrell was a life Mason, a Kentucky Colonel, and a member of Rolling Hills Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Bob Murrell departed this earthly life and entered into the kingdom of Heaven on January 29, 2016, leaving his family, friends, and all those whose lives he touched during his extraordinary service to this country in solemn mourning; and

WHEREAS, Bob Murrell was preceded in death by his parents; wife of 71 years, Doris E. Murrell; daughter, Gayle C. Murrell; and three siblings. He is survived by his son, Robert J. Murrell; nieces and nephew, Barbara Norwood, Connie Murphy, Deborah Murrell, and Harry T. Murrell; and granddaughter, Amy Cook;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives hereby express their most profound sorrow upon the passing of Robert T. Murrell; extend heartfelt condolences to his family in this time of loss; and honor him posthumously for his bravery, valor, and all that he sacrificed to protect the freedom of those living in this great nation.

➔Section 2. When the House of Representatives adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving memory of Robert T. Murrell.

➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Representative Mary Lou Marzian for delivery to the family.