

A RESOLUTION adjourning the House of Representatives in honor and loving memory of Colonel Walker Russell "Russ" Reynolds.

WHEREAS, Colonel Russ Reynolds was a treasured son of this Commonwealth, having been born in Jackson County on August 7, 1918, the beloved son of the late Judge Walker and Mary Reynolds; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Russ Reynolds was a graduate of Jackson County High School and the University of Kentucky, where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Russ Reynolds proudly served his country as a member of the United States Air Force. He performed combat operations in the Pacific Theater from 1943 until 1945, flying the B-24 Liberator with the famed "Red Raiders" of the 22nd Bomb Group; transported nuclear weapons from Hickam Field, Hawaii; and then commanded the 7th Logistics Support Squadron at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas from 1955 to 1964; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Russ Reynolds' greatest and most profound achievements were in the area of rescue and recovery. In 1964, he received the Joint Service Commendation Medal for his work in command of the 57th Air Rescue Squadron. From there he served as the Inspector General of Rescue and Recovery at Orlando Air Force Base, Florida and then as Deputy Commander for Operations at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, directing air rescue missions in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, from 1970 to 1985, Colonel Russ Reynolds served as Executive Director of the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers. His work during this time included a stint at the Speed Scientific School at the University of Louisville, where he was named an honorary alumnus; and

WHEREAS, for his extraordinary service to his country and the three decades he spent in the field of aviation, Colonel Russ Reynolds was inducted into the Aviation Museum of Kentucky's Hall of Fame on November 7, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Walker Russell "Russ" Reynolds departed this earthly life and entered the kingdom of Heaven on January 1, 2016, leaving his family, friends, and all those in this Commonwealth and nation who benefited from his bravery and selfless sacrifice in solemn mourning; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Russ Reynolds was preceded in death by his wife, Laurestine Syck Reynolds. He is survived by his sons, Ken and Doug Reynolds, and his daughter-in-law, Dr. Lynn Reynolds;

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 great sorrow upon the passing of Colonel Walker Russell "Russ" Reynolds, and extend their heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and community in this time of loss.

➔Section 2. When the House of Representatives adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving memory of Colonel Walker Russell "Russ" Reynolds.

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