



SR1157

LRB103 42057 LAW 75281 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Roger Gerald "Jerry" Belt of Morris, who passed away on August 9, 2024; and

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WHEREAS, Jerry Belt, the son of Roger and Jessie (Broderick) Belt, was born in Morris on October 17, 1935; he was raised and educated in Morris, graduating from Morris High School in 1954, where he was a member of the football team; he married Delight Montanus in Morris on December 17, 1960, and she preceded him in death on December 15, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, Jerry Belt began working at Wilson Chevrolet in Morris in 1954; he received a draft notice in June 1958; after reporting to the Armed Forces Induction Center in Chicago, he joined the U.S. Army; he underwent basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri; over the next two years, he served in a transportation company near Incheon Harbor in the Republic of South Korea; he concluded his required service while stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, where he was honorably discharged on June 10, 1960; and

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WHEREAS, After returning to Morris in 1960, Jerry Belt worked as an iron worker on area projects before taking a position as a sheet metal worker at R.L. Lyon Heating and

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1 Cooling in Morris in 1965; he then joined the Braidwood
2 Nuclear Power Station in 1985, where he served as foreman of
3 Sheet Metal Workers Union Local 265 until 1994; and

4 WHEREAS, Jerry Belt and his wife, Delight, were best known
5 for their band, The Jerry Belt Combo, with him playing drums
6 and her serving as vocalist; they performed Dixieland and Big
7 Band music throughout the Chicagoland area for over 30 years,
8 and they regularly performed at the Morris Country Club, the
9 Morris Hospital Ball, the Grundy County Corn Festival, the
10 Morris Fire Department, and numerous veteran events throughout
11 Grundy County; they also regularly donated performances at
12 local nursing homes and local nonprofit fundraising events;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Throughout the 1970s and until 2015, Jerry Belt
15 was an active member of the American Federation of Musicians
16 Local 323 in Coal City and, later, Local 37 in Joliet, serving
17 as the recording secretary and a delegate to the state and
18 national conventions; he was also an active member of the
19 Morris Color Guard and past commander of the John Martin
20 Steele Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6049 in Morris; and

21 WHEREAS, Jerry Belt was an avid fan and a season ticket
22 holder of the Morris High School football team, the Redskins;
23 he later became a fan of the Montini Catholic High School

1 football team, the Broncos, where his grandson, Josh, played
2 on two state championship teams; and

3 WHEREAS, Jerry Belt was preceded in death by his parents
4 and his brothers, Donald Belt, Michael Belt, and James Belt;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Jerry Belt is survived by his sons, Greg Belt and
7 Scott (Cindy) Belt; his daughter, Joy (Craig Roselieb)
8 Belt-Roselieb; his grandchildren, Tara (Jon) Larson, Jessica
9 (J.T.) Strube, Jenna (Joshua) Finfrock, Monica (Cody) Frank,
10 Joshua (Ella Peterson) Belt, and Abigail Roselieb; four
11 great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins;
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
15 Roger Gerald "Jerry" Belt and extend our sincere condolences
16 to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be
17 it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of Jerry Belt as an expression of our
20 deepest sympathy.