

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 124

BY SENATOR DORSEY-COLOMB

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Morris Lawrence East.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of Louisiana learned of the death of Morris Lawrence East on April 30, 2015, at the age of seventy-seven; and

WHEREAS, he was born on April 19, 1938, in Hackberry, Louisiana, where he lived until he joined the United States Army in 1955; and

WHEREAS, Mr. East served with distinction in Army intelligence throughout the world, including tours in Afghanistan, Italy, Germany, France, and Vietnam before retiring at the rank of Sergeant First Class; and

WHEREAS, during his military service, he received the Meritorious Service Medal and was a member of a unit awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for intelligence efforts in the Gulf of Tonkin; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from the armed forces with twenty years of service, Mr. East moved his family to Baton Rouge where he and his wife attended Louisiana State University (LSU); and

WHEREAS, upon graduating, he was employed by the Louisiana Department of Education for twenty years where he worked in a variety of administrative roles; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong learner, Mr. East returned to LSU to further his education and enrolled in the paralegal program, language classes, photography classes, and dance classes with his wife; and

WHEREAS, a devoted public servant, he dedicated his time and talent to numerous civic organizations and political campaigns for candidates affiliated with the Democratic party; and

WHEREAS, a devout Roman Catholic, he served in a variety of leadership and ministry positions in the churches he attended; and

WHEREAS, Mr. East is survived by his loving wife of more than forty-seven years, Rebecca; his children, Mary East Sanders, Charles East, and Susan East Nelson; and his grandchildren, Joey, Lauren, Samantha, and Emily, who were a great source of pride and joy for him; and

WHEREAS, Mr. East's greatest loves were his wife and his family, especially his grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, with the death of Morris Lawrence East, Louisiana has lost one of its finest citizens who was admired by all whose lives he touched and is greatly missed; and

WHEREAS, his passing has left a tremendous void in the Baton Rouge community, but his love, smile, and personality shall remain eternal in the hearts and minds of his loved ones, friends, and all who had the opportunity to meet and know him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Morris Lawrence East, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his accomplishments, and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the pride and honor that he will forever bring to his family, friends, community, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Morris Lawrence East.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES