

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 15

BY SENATOR COLOMB

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Wilfred "T-Will" Charles.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of Louisiana and community of Lawtell have learned of the death of Wilfred "T-Will" Charles on May 28, 2016, at the age of ninety-five; and

WHEREAS, Wilfred Charles was born to the late Ulysses and Theresa Powell Charles on November 23, 1920, in Arnaudville, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Wilfred "T-Will" Charles as he was affectionately known to family, friends and loved ones, was a lifelong resident of Lawtell, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Wilfred "T-Will" Charles was a World War II veteran serving as a Private First Class (Pfc) in the Army Air Forces from 1942 through 1946; and

WHEREAS, he was honorably discharged in 1946 and decorated with the American Theatre Ribbon Victory Medal, after being stationed in France and in other areas overseas; and

WHEREAS, Wilfred "T-Will" Charles was married to Irene White and to this union four children, Elsie Charles, Paul Charles, Joseph Olan Charles, and Joseph Mitchell Charles were born; and

WHEREAS, at the untimely death of his first wife, he met and married Irene Simmons Comeaux and gained six more children, Alvin, Ruthie, Dorothy, Shirley, Leroy and Sidney, whom he raised and loved as his own; and

WHEREAS, Wilfred "T-Will" Charles was an active member of Holy Family Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, he was well known in the Lawtell neighborhood and many adopted him as their dad, grandfather, uncle, but most importantly as everyone's friend; and

WHEREAS, Wilfred "T-Will" Charles was a "jack of all trades" with the ability to do electrical, plumbing and carpentry work and in his spare time, he loved to fish and tend to his garden; and

WHEREAS, Wilfred "T-Will" Charles was preceded in death by his parents, two loving wives, four brothers: Maurice Charles, Allen Charles, Innis Charles, and Junius Charles; three sisters: Mary Henrietta Charles Fountain, Nola Mae Brooks, and Francis Charles Barlow; and two daughters: Shirley Charles and Sidney Williams; and

WHEREAS, the death of Wilfred "T-Will" Charles has left a substantial void in the Lawtell community and a sense of loss in the citizens whose lives he touched; and

WHEREAS, his memory shall live forever in the minds and hearts of all those who knew and loved this extraordinary man and public servant.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Wilfred "T-Will" Charles and respectfully acknowledges with gratitude his service to this country, his church, and the tremendous pride and honor that he will forever bring to the Lawtell community, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Wilfred "T-Will" Charles.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE