

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 34

BY SENATOR FOIL

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of G. Allen Penniman.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of Louisiana learned of the death of G. Allen Penniman on April 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, G. Allen Penniman was the eldest son of G. Allen Penniman Sr. and Frances Staten Penniman; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Penniman was a graduate of Highland Park High School in Dallas, Texas, and also graduated from Virginia Military Institute in 1948; and

WHEREAS, he later attended Louisiana State University (LSU), was a graduate of the first class of the Mid-South Executive Development Program, and a member of Kappa Alpha Order, Beta Chapter; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Penniman is fondly remembered as the owner and proprietor of the Pak-a-Sak convenience stores which offered all-day shopping seven days a week and featured the first self-service gasoline pumps, as well as legendary barbeque sandwiches and Icee frozen drinks; and

WHEREAS, he served on the board of the Council of Profit Sharing Industries and was especially proud that his company offered a profit sharing program to all employees; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, Pak-a-Sak merged with Southland Corporation of Dallas, Texas, and Mr. Penniman served as a liaison and regional manager throughout the southeastern part of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, he founded the Penniman Company with a business outlook of acquiring, managing, and selling companies; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Penniman was a mentor, counselor, and friend to many young business people, and was respected and revered for his generosity and business acumen; and

WHEREAS, as an active businessman, he cared deeply for his community and was involved in many philanthropic activities, serving tirelessly on numerous nonprofit boards of directors, including the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Convenience Stores, and St. Lukes and St. James Episcopal Churches where he acted as a vestryman and served on the school boards; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Penniman also served as a board member of the Capital Savings and Loan Association, City National Bank, Community Coffee Company, Charter Chambers Supply, Miller Penniman Equipment, and Vermillion Inc.; and

WHEREAS, he was also campaign chairman and president for the United Givers Fund, and in 1961, he received the Young Businessman of the Year award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Penniman's proudest civic contribution came in the support of the Episcopal School of Baton Rouge, where he was a founder and the last surviving member of that group; and

WHEREAS, he served as board president many times in the early years and was unfailing in his support throughout the decades, contributing to building campaigns, scholarships, and teacher incentives; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Penniman would say, "A day never goes by without my thinking of Episcopal School", and he considered his support of the school his greatest accomplishment, having had the honor of presenting four of his grandchildren with their graduating diplomas; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Penniman was a member of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation and used his Penniman Family Fund to support many nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, he was a member of the LSU Foundation and supported the School of Arts and Music and the E.J. Ourso School of Business; and

WHEREAS, a fan of LSU baseball, he was a member of the Coaches Committee, and was a regular attendee at Alex Box Stadium; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Penniman grew up hunting and fishing, loved the outdoors, and in 1975, he bought property in Clinton, Louisiana, developed the land, and named it Penniman Oaks; and

WHEREAS, he taught every grandchild how to shoot a shotgun and bait a hook; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Penniman planted fifty live oak trees, and those trees carry his legacy of love of family and promise in the future; and

WHEREAS, he was a loving and generous patriarch, having married Mary Virginia Crain Penniman in 1948, and becoming parents to five children; and

WHEREAS, after Mary's death, he married Joan Calder Penniman in 1977 and is survived by the Penniman family consisting of Laurie and Al McDuff, and girls; Mary Virginia and Kate; Mary Crain and Bill Brumback, and son Jake; Margaret Boudreaux and children, Elliott and Anne; Graham and Maureen Penniman, and children, Alyce, Rita, Mary Margaret, William, and Catherine; Robert and Rebecca, and children, George, Jack, and Elizabeth; Lila and Randy Mulkey and daughters, Sarah, Claire, and Amy; Caroline and Charles Coutret, and children, Will, Gordon, and Eloise; Gordon and Susan Atkins, and children, Mary Katherine, Edward and Henry; and four great-granddaughters; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Penniman kept up with every child and grandchild, never forgot a birthday, knew the name of every school and college they attended, every field of study, and every "A" they received; and

WHEREAS, he attended every graduation and would say his family was his greatest accomplishment; and

WHEREAS, his family would say he was their greatest gift; and

WHEREAS, with the death of G. Allen Penniman, Louisiana has lost one of its finest sons, a quintessential southern gentleman who loved his community and whose accomplishments have left an indelible mark upon his community, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, the death of G. Allen Penniman has left a substantial void in the Baton Rouge community and a sense of loss in the citizens whose lives he touched; and his memory shall live forever in the minds and hearts of all those who knew and loved this remarkable gentleman.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of G. Allen Penniman, record for posterity his outstanding achievements, and extend enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor that he will forever bring to the Baton Rouge community, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of America.

SR NO. 34

ENROLLED

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of G. Allen Penniman.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE