

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 5

BY SENATORS FOIL AND WHEAT

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family and friends of Dr. Donald Gene Luther upon the occasion of his passing on December 4, 2023, at the age of eighty-seven.

WHEREAS, Dr. Donald Gene Luther (Gene) was born on September 2, 1936, to Euil Clifton Luther and Offie Bell Dosier Luther, on a cotton farm in Elk City, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, he proudly served in the United States Air Force as a jet engine mechanic and attended Oklahoma State University, earning a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Gene married the love of his life, Tama Wiggins, in 1958 and after graduation moved to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to practice Veterinary Medicine; and

WHEREAS, he earned doctoral degrees in Microbiology and Biochemistry and Virology from the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, served as a professor for many years and culminated his tenure as a Professor Emeritus; and

WHEREAS, during his time at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, he developed the ground-breaking vaccine for Anaplasmosis which saved the lives of countless cattle world-wide and upon retirement founded the biotechnology firm University Products to produce the vaccine; and

WHEREAS, Gene loved LSU baseball and would always sit behind home plate encouraging players and advising the umpires and coaching staff; and

WHEREAS, his greatest gift to his students, friends, family, and all those in need was opening his home and heart and being a loving husband, father, grandfather, mentor, colleague, and teacher; and

WHEREAS, Gene is survived by his beloved wife of sixty-five years, Tama Wiggins Luther and their four children and their spouses, Euil Eugene Luther (Sherry), Donald Gene Luther Jr. (Stacey), Gene Eujohn Luther (Lisa Anne), and Tama Geen Luther Keller (Jason Robert), in addition to seven grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.

SR NO. 5

ENROLLED

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Dr. Donald Gene Luther upon the occasion of his passing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Dr. Donald Gene Luther.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE