

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2

BY REPRESENTATIVE HARRIS

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Clarence Herbert Downs of Alexandria, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the Louisiana House of Representatives has learned of the death of Clarence Herbert "Sonny" Downs of Alexandria, Louisiana, at the age of eighty-one on February 27, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Clarence Herbert Downs was born in Alexandria, Louisiana, on July 10, 1933, to Charles Edward and Eula Beauboeuf Downs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Downs graduated from Bolton High School in 1950, attended Louisiana College in Pineville, and completed his education at the New York School of Interior Design; and

WHEREAS, in 1952, Mr. Downs established Downs Furniture Company with his brother, where he worked until the store closed on December 31, 1990; after the closing of Downs Furniture Company, Mr. Downs' passion for furniture and interior design never diminished and he helped his daughter, Kyle, with her design business; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Downs was deeply committed to his family, friends, community, and country; he was a member of Calvary Baptist Church, the Louisiana Home Furnishings Association, the Lion's Club, and he served as president of the Cosmopolitan Club of Alexandria, a board member of Alexandria Country Day School, and as a former chairman of the Annual Menard Fundraiser; Clarence Herbert Downs was honorably discharged from the National Guard of Louisiana as Sergeant First Class in Medical Company; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Downs was preceded in death by his parents; his sisters, Eunice Downs Sayes, Ilda Downs Woodall, Bernice Downs Kitchen, and Fay Downs Ellerbe; and his brothers, Malcolm C. "Mac" Downs, James Emmett Downs, Charles Ray Downs, Ralph Huey Downs, and Newman Downs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Downs is survived by his loving wife, Burma; his daughter, Kyle Downs Drerup, and her husband, Lawrence Drerup, M.D.; his son, Stephen Dyer Downs, M.D.; his granddaughter, Jimmie Rose David; and numerous extended family members, cousins, nieces, and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Clarence Herbert Downs leaves behind a rich and unique legacy of hard work and dedication and is greatly missed by all whose lives he touched.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Clarence Herbert Downs of Alexandria, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his notable accomplishments and singular contributions, and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the pride and honor that he will forever bring to his family and friends, the city of Alexandria, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Clarence Herbert Downs.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES