

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 59

BY SENATORS PERRY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX, BROWN, CARTER, CHABERT, CLAITOR, COLOMB, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HEWITT, JOHNS, LAFLEUR, LAMBERT, LONG, LUNEAU, MARTINY, MILKOVICH, MILLS, MIZELL, MORRELL, MORRISH, PEACOCK, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of U.S. Air Force Sergeant Johnny James Kelly upon his death.

WHEREAS, Johnny James Kelly was a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, but later moved with his family as a six-year-old child to St. Charles Parish, where he spent the majority of his boyhood, graduating from Hahnville High School in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Johnny developed a love at a young age for sports and was very active athletically, playing basketball, football, and baseball, and excelling at anything that was physically challenging; and

WHEREAS, Johnny, after high school, attended ITT Technical College then decided that he was much more interested in serving his country with military service and in 2005 he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force; and

WHEREAS, Johnny found the life of an airman to be challenging, yet rewarding, and he worked and trained hard, and his superiors recognized his efforts by promoting him to Sergeant and assigning him greater responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Kelly would spend ten years in the U.S. Air Force, serving assignments in Germany and Italy with great success and learning much about the world and its people; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Kelly would be deployed to the Middle East where he would serve two tours in Iraq and one in Saudi Arabia with courage and commitment while he began to renew his efforts to get a college degree; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Kelly would marry Natasha Saxon on March 20, 2006, and from that union would father two beautiful children, Johnny James Kelly Jr., and Nijalay Amari-Lynn Kelly, who were the lights of his life; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Kelly was serving on his final tour in Las Vegas, Nevada, with plans to get his discharge from military service and to renew his college career and achieve a college degree; and

WHEREAS, in his final days of service to his country, Sergeant Kelly thought often about his children and planned not only his own life goals but he thought more and more of a life that would allow him to be home and closer to his children; and

WHEREAS, sadly, Sergeant Kelly would pass away March 20, 2015, for causes known only to himself and God, leaving his children and family only his memories to cherish and remember.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its deepest and most profound condolences to the family of U.S. Air Force Sergeant Johnny James Kelly for their immeasurable loss and his sacrifice and deep commitment and love of his country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Johnny James Kelly.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE