

House Resolution 1803

By: Representative Ralston of the 7th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Ronnie Fred Thompson; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
3 with the passing of Ronnie Fred Thompson; and

4 WHEREAS, Ronnie was owner of the Ronnie Thompson Ford dealership in East Ellijay and
5 was known as a great civic leader, a wonderful family man, and a genuine friend to those he
6 loved, as well as to countless strangers whom he anonymously helped and supported in times
7 of need; and

8 WHEREAS, after graduating from Gilmer High School in 1968, Ronnie supported his alma
9 mater for the rest of his life, contributing his time and financial resources to all the school's
10 athletic programs, including football, basketball, wrestling, and the band; and

11 WHEREAS, among many contributions to his community, Ronnie served for 12 years on the
12 Gilmer County Board of Education, was instrumental in creating the Gilmer County Sports
13 Hall of Fame, and served on the United Community Bank Board of Directors; and

14 WHEREAS, Ronnie was united in love and marriage to his wife, Vicki, whom he married
15 on Valentine's Day in 1981, and they renewed their vows at a "real church wedding" at
16 Whitestone Church 25 years later; and they were blessed with two remarkable children: son,
17 Heath, and daughter, Jessi; and

18 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths, with an unimpeachable reputation
19 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he made of his life, he
20 made this world a better place in which to live; and

21 WHEREAS, as one friend described, "Ronnie did countless acts of kindness, many of which
22 will never be known"; he provided cars to help with people's medical needs and made many
23 anonymous donations to schools, sports teams, and to people who were less fortunate; and

24 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Ronnie Fred Thompson will long be
25 remembered for his love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father,
26 philanthropist, and friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
28 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Ronnie Fred Thompson
29 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
31 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
32 family of Ronnie Fred Thompson.