

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 66

BY SENATOR PERRY

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of Leon D. Ortemond Sr.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Louisiana Senate have learned of the passing of Leon D. Ortemond Sr. on April 14, 2012, at the age of sixty-five; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ortemond was a native of Erath and a long time resident of the Leblanc Community; and

WHEREAS, as a graduate of Erath High School, he received athletic scholarships to Tulane University in New Orleans and the University of Southwest Louisiana in Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, he was inducted into the Erath Hall of Fame in recognition of his athletic performances; and

WHEREAS, with his boundless generosity and tireless dedication, Mr. Ortemond cherished his family above all else as a devoted husband, father, and grandfather; and

WHEREAS, he was the consummate patriarch and committed his life to the passion of his family; and

WHEREAS, he had a collaborative and caring relationship with the love of his life, Diana Romero, for forty-six years; and

WHEREAS, as consummate partners in life, they supported and cared for their family with unending commitment and devotion; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ortemond is survived by his son, Lance David Ortemond and his wife, Kelly; his daughter, Christina Franques and her husband, Andre; and six granddaughters, Mary Catherine, Anna Grace, Jeanne Claire, Caroline Elizabeth, Laura Anne, and Catherine Clare; and

WHEREAS, he is preceded in death by his parents, Lula Belanger Ortemond and Landis Ortemond; and his brother, Charles Ray Ortemond; and

WHEREAS, as a businessman, he was a successful and respected pioneer in the oilfield and marine industries throughout the Gulf of Mexico, having founded and operated several service companies in the past forty-six years; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, he was a dynamic entrepreneur approaching every aspect of his profession with charisma and vigor; and

WHEREAS, with his venturesome and enterprising spirit, he was a commanding and motivational force in his monopoly of corporations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ortemond began his career in the 1960s which included offshore drilling operations for Magabar Mud Company, Oil Base, Inc., and Sun Oil Company; and

WHEREAS, he subsequently founded Petro-Drive Oil Field Hammer and Casing Company, where he served as president from 1976 to 1981; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, he founded and operated Mar-Con, Inc., an offshore crane and oilfield construction company, and operated that company until 2003; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his death, he worked side by side with his sons and family members operating D&L Salvage and Marine; and

WHEREAS, during his career, Mr. Ortemond developed and held several patents relating to offshore pile driving, lifting, and crane installation services; and

WHEREAS, he exemplified his zest for life through his passion for all things aquatic, notably offshore power boating and racing, having achieved a world record in power boat racing from New Orleans to St. Louis, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, being self taught in his copious endeavors and with a constant eagerness for knowledge and understanding, he was captivated with reading and research; and

WHEREAS, his extensive and diverse philanthropic efforts included cancer research, education, athletics, government and law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, with the death of Mr. Ortemond, Louisiana lost one of its finest citizens and a true gentleman who left an indelible mark on the lives of those he touched; and

WHEREAS, although his death left a tremendous void in his community and state, his memory shall live on in the minds and hearts of all who knew and loved him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the passing of Leon D. Ortemond Sr., and does hereby recognize the incomparable legacy which is marked by the deep pride and honor that he brought to his family, friends, community, state, and nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Leon D. Ortemond Sr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE