

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 38

By: Silk

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution congratulating Norman Heaton for his
8 induction into the Skydiving Museum and Hall of Fame;
9 and directing distribution.

10
11 WHEREAS, Norman Heaton made his first parachute jump with the
12 82nd Airborne Division during Jump School and had completed 31
13 military jumps when he was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army
14 in January 1958; and

15 WHEREAS, Heaton joined the Oklahoma State University Skydivers
16 in the fall of 1961. He served as President of the club for two
17 years and was the only instructor and jumpmaster in the group and
18 was responsible for training all of the students; and

19 WHEREAS, he has been a member of the Parachute Club of America,
20 now known as the United States Parachute Association, for 49 years.
21 The association is the national representative body for skydiving
22 and the parachuting branch of the National Aeronautic Association;
23 and
24

1 WHEREAS, Heaton founded the Oklahoma Parachute Council in early
2 1964 and served as its first President; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1964, he qualified for the nation's highest
4 parachuting license, the US/FAI Class D Parachute License, followed
5 by the FAA Senior Parachute Riggers License and also attained the
6 coveted Instructor/Examiner Rating; and

7 WHEREAS, Heaton was hired in May of 1964 as the Assistant
8 Director of the Parachute Club of America and then in July was named
9 Executive Director. During his tenure, he helped increase club
10 membership to over 25,000 members; and

11 WHEREAS, he was the only person in the world, at the time, to
12 have served as Meet Director for eleven National Parachuting
13 Championships. He also served as Meet Director for two world
14 parachuting championships; the XI World Parachuting Championships in
15 1972 in Oklahoma; and the 1st World Cup of Relative Work Parachuting
16 in 1973 in North Carolina; and

17 WHEREAS, Heaton was the U.S. Representative to the International
18 Parachute Committee (IPC) of the Federation Aeronique (FAI), the
19 international representative body for all aviation sports, from 1969
20 to 1975; and

21 WHEREAS, in 1971, he made his one-thousandth freefall parachute
22 jump and was awarded the coveted Gold Wings of the USPA. The Gold
23 Wings were presented by Apollo Astronaut Ed Mitchell at the opening
24

1 ceremonies of the 1971 National Parachuting Championships in
2 Tahlequah; and

3 WHEREAS, Heaton received the USPA Achievement Award and was
4 bestowed the Paul Tissandier Diploma by the FAI. He also was named
5 Executive Director Emeritus by the USPA Board of Directors; and

6 WHEREAS, on October 11, 2014, Heaton became the first Oklahoman
7 to be inducted into the Skydiving Museum and Hall of Fame.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
9 OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

10 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates Norman Heaton for
11 his induction into the Skydiving Museum and Hall of Fame.

12 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Norman Heaton.

13

14 55-1-1810 JB 5/14/2015 3:21:04 PM

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24