

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 290

By Vital

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Garry "Mac" McGowan.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Garry "Mac" McGowan, a beloved television and radio personality and an admired figure in the Chattanooga medical and nonprofit communities; and

WHEREAS, Mac McGowan was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, described by his contemporaries as a "master at conversation," Mr. McGowan served with acumen and alacrity as a local radio and TV broadcaster in Chattanooga, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and the adoration of his listeners across the state and beyond for the exemplary quality of his work and gregarious personality; and

WHEREAS, he worked at both WDXB and WGOW, but his most notable work can be traced back to his time working at WGOW in the 1980s, where he and his partner Dale Deason hosted a morning show together. In recent years, he filled in at WGOW talk radio as a substitute when hosts were sick or on vacation; and

WHEREAS, he also worked in the healthcare field as a marketing assistant for Memorial Hospital. While working at Memorial, he started the water bottle program, which urged people to stay hydrated and drink water; and

WHEREAS, in the mid-1990s, he was a news anchor for WDEF-TV for two years; he also served as a spokesman for Hospice of Chattanooga and was a frequent guest on local TV news and talk programs; and

WHEREAS; a community-oriented individual, Mr. McGowan contributed to a number of local fundraisers, galas, cookie sales, and nonprofit organization projects; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McGowan was an active and devout member of Christ United Methodist Church in East Brainerd, which he served faithfully for many years as a board member; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his three wonderful children, Kellan (Kristin) McGowan, Hunter McGowan, and Brittany (Mike) Kolodziej; his two grandchildren, Lucy Grace and Watson James; and his aunt, Esther (Richard) Follis; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Betty McGowan and Charles McGowan, and trusty companion, Max the Dog; and

WHEREAS, Garry "Mac" McGowan leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Garry "Mac" McGowan, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. McGowan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.