

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 921

By Powell

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Roger Dudley Fish of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Roger Dudley Fish; and

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

WHEREAS, born in Nashville on May 26, 1942, Mr. Fish was the son of Joseph Dudley and Roberta Jamison Fish; after his graduation from Isaac Litton High School, where he received the All-City Nashville Football award, he attended Vanderbilt University on a football scholarship and joined Sigma Chi Fraternity and the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps; and

WHEREAS, upon his college graduation, he received a commission as an Ensign in the United States Navy Reserve; his first tour of duty was aboard the USS *Annapolis* as a communications officer, and he served in the Vietnam War, before his discharge at the rank of lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, during his time in the Navy, Mr. Fish enrolled in the University of Memphis Law School, graduating in 1970, and continued his education at the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida, where he earned a Master of Law in Tax in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fish served as an assistant district attorney general for twenty-two years from 1974 to 1996 until he retired; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed a lively personal life, partaking in numerous hobbies with friends and family over the years; he was a master gardener and gourmet cook as well as a certified

scuba diver, and some of his greatest joys were sailing in the Caribbean for sixteen years, traveling to Europe, hunting, and water-skiing; and

WHEREAS, devoted to his faith, Mr. Fish was a longtime member of Otter Creek Church of Christ in Brentwood; 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, Mr. Fish enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Lydia Lee Cox, and was the proud father of Suzanne Fish (Tate) Thigpen and the devoted grandfather of Kathleen; and

WHEREAS, he is lovingly remembered by his brother, Stanley Jamison Fish; sister-in-law, Betty Cox (Matt) Morrison; brother-in-law, Jimmy (Donna) Cox; nephews, Matt (Jan) Morrison, James "JB" Barnes (Nancy) Cox, and William Lyman (Kim) Cox; great-nephews, Ben Cox, John Morrison, and Cole Morrison; great-nieces, Julia Cox, Savannah Cox, and Jordan Cox; god-grandchildren, Barbara and JB Crane, children of Joseph and Margaret Crane; and a host of other family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Roger Fish 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 Roger Dudley Fish, 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. Fish.

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.