

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1367

By Bailey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Eddie Howard Gaw II of Cookeville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Eddie Howard Gaw II, who was affectionately known as Little Eddie; and

WHEREAS, a native of Cookeville, Mr. Gaw was a graduate of Cookeville High School and Tennessee College of Applied Technology Livingston; and

WHEREAS, Eddie Gaw was revered and respected as "a beacon of kindness and friendliness in the community he loved and never left"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gaw's fondness for horses led him to participate in cutting horse competition and resulted in a serendipitous meeting with the love of his life and future wife, Calina Barnes, when he secured the services of her father, Ted Barnes, to train his horses; and

WHEREAS, after their marriage on August 7, 1993, Eddie and Calina Gaw enjoyed showing horses and traveling together, and they treasured the close-knit relationships they developed both in and out of the show pen; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, the Gaws founded their own business, Volunteer Heating and Cooling, and welcomed their beloved daughter, Carley Faith, into the world; and

WHEREAS, through her parents' influence, Carley grew to love cutting horse competition, and she attained a ranking among the top fifteen riders in the world in the sport, to the great pride of her father, who was always by her side; and

WHEREAS, possessing exceptional grilling skills, Mr. Gaw thoroughly enjoyed grilling for his friends at the Cookeville Boat Dock; participating in cooking competitions with his barbeque team, "the Snoring Hogs," which included Brent Gentry and Tony Smith; and serving the community at the annual Lazy G stew cook; and

WHEREAS, Little Eddie Gaw will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and neighbors and fondly remembered for "his infectious laugh, his ability to fix anything, and his love of serving others"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gaw is survived by his wife, Calina; daughter, Carley; father, Eddie H. Gaw and wife, Frida; mother, Joyce Dennis Sutton and husband, Danny; brother, Jason Gaw and wife, Erin; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Ted and Anita Barnes; step-siblings, Daniel Sutton and wife, Rachel, Megan Swann and husband, Ben, Christina Slemp and husband, Jon, Carl Reece Nash, and Kimberly Nash; nieces and nephews, Luke, Noah, Ellie, and Lucy; and several beloved aunts and uncles; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his grandparents, Howard and Flossie Gaw and Dexter and Myrtle Dennis; and

WHEREAS, Eddie Gaw 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; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Eddie Howard Gaw II, reflecting fondly upon the positive influence he had on so many lives through his kindness and generosity.

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

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.