

SENATE RESOLUTION 4

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Donnie Ray Eblen of Kingston.

WHEREAS, we were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Donnie Ray Eblen; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eblen 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, Donnie Eblen earned the respect and admiration of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work at the Y-12 Plant in Oak Ridge, from which he retired after thirty-eight years of distinguished service; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to his community, Mr. Eblen was a member of the East Roane County Volunteer Fire Department for twenty-eight years; during his tenure, he also served admirably for eighteen years as chief of the fire department; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Eblen was a highly respected former chairman of the Roane County 911 Board, past vice president of Farm Bureau in Roane County, and a member of the Farm Service Agency; and

WHEREAS, nicknamed " Farmer Don," Mr. Eblen truly loved his farm and was very proud to be a beef cattle farmer; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Eblen was an active and devout member of New Midway Baptist Church, where he faithfully served in a number of capacities over the years; 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. Eblen enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of forty-two years, Pam Eblen; also left to cherish his memory are his son, Travis (Matt) Palafox-Eblen; his parents, Raymond and Faye Eblen; his sisters, Debbie (Jack) Barker and Cathy Hamby; and several nieces, nephews, cousins, and fellow firefighters; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his grandparents, Kaney and Eula Eblen and Ruth McKee, and his mother-in-law, Hazel Cook; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Eblen 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 we should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Donnie Ray Eblen, 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. Eblen.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.