

No. R-147. House concurrent resolution in memory of John C. Donahue Jr. of Northfield.

(H.C.R.64)

Offered by: Representatives Grad of Moretown, Andrews of Rutland City, Fisher of Lincoln, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Haas of Rochester, Koch of Barre Town, McFaun of Barre Town, Mrowicki of Putney, O'Donnell of Vernon, Orr of Charlotte and Pugh of South Burlington

Whereas, John Donahue's first experience as a newspaperman began in 1933, at the wise age of 12, when his cousin and he introduced the publication the "Falls News" to the Northfield Falls readership, and his coeditorship of this summer weekly continued for the next five years, and

Whereas, he earned a degree in English and history at Manhattan College, and later studied at the New School for Social Research, the University of Vermont, the University of Rhode Island, the Institut d'Études Politiques of the Université de Paris, and the Università Italiana per Stranieri in Perugia, Italy, and

Whereas, after college graduation and service in the U.S. Coast Guard during WWII, John Donahue became sports editor of the Burlington Daily News, and then moved to Boston where he edited the Bostonian magazine and the Boston Transcript magazine, and

Whereas, later as a reporter for the United Press, he covered the news throughout western Europe before assuming the editorship of the Burlington Daily News and Vermont Sunday News, and

Whereas, in our nation's capital, John Donahue served as the national editor of The Washington Post for six years, and

Whereas, his other journalism homes and roles included the Braintree Mass., Sunday Forum, which he founded, edited, and published; the Boston Evening Globe's day desk; editor and publisher of Suburban Trends in Butler, New Jersey; and copy desk chief and editorial page editor at the Daily Record of Morristown, New Jersey, and

Whereas, at Purdue University, John Donahue served as a mentor to future journalists as a teacher and the publisher of the student newspaper, the Purdue Exponent, and

Whereas, John Donahue's life as a journalist returned full circle to Northfield where he edited and published the Northfield Transcript and, most recently, the Northfield News and Transcript, which he sold in July 2008 after his 75th year as a journalist, and

Whereas, John Donahue had a personally fulfilling life as a reporter, editor, and mentor to young aspiring journalists, and he devoted his journalism career to the principle that open government and an informed populace is critical to the success of a democracy, and

Whereas, he died in Northfield on October 4, 2008, and his survivors include his wife, Christiane, his children, John C. III, Anne, Christiane, Pierre, Marc, and Mayalen, and seven grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its condolences to the family of John C. Donahue Jr. of Northfield, and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send copies of this resolution to his family members, including his wife, Christiane Donahue, in Northfield.