

1 HJR461
2 119375-3
3 By Representatives Sanderford, Ball, McCutcheon, Williams (P),
4 Hinshaw, Hall and Taylor
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 02-MAR-10

1

2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. JAMES R. CLEARY.

4

5 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow and regret that
6 news is received of the death of Mr. James R. Cleary of
7 Huntsville, Alabama, on February 15, 2010, at the age of 83
8 years; and

9 WHEREAS, a retired attorney, Mr. Cleary was a highly
10 regarded civic leader; born July 16, 1926, in Springville, he
11 graduated from Birmingham-Southern College in 1948 and earned
12 his law degree from Northwestern Law School in 1951; he moved
13 to Huntsville to establish the Army legal office at Redstone
14 Arsenal and worked there until entering private practice in
15 1955; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Cleary played a major role in the
17 development of Huntsville's economy; he was one of the
18 founding partners of WAFG-TV, a station that became WAAY-TV,
19 and was one of the founders of The Huntsville News, which was
20 later sold to The Huntsville Times; he also was a founding
21 director of Security Federal Savings and Loan, which became
22 Secor, and American National Bank, which became AmSouth,
23 serving on the board of directors of both institutions for
24 many years; and

1 WHEREAS, among his civic contributions, he served on
2 the Madison County Airport Authority from 1968-1986; he was
3 the Madison County president of the Jaycees 1955-1956 and
4 state vice president of the Jaycees in 1957, when he was also
5 named the "Young Man of the Year" for Huntsville; his
6 additional leadership roles included membership on the Board
7 of Trustees for Birmingham-Southern College and serving as
8 president of the Optimist Club of Huntsville and lieutenant
9 governor of the Alabama-Mississippi District; devoted to
10 family and faith, he was a member of the First United
11 Methodist Church for more than 50 years, where he served on
12 the administrative board and in many other capacities; and

13 WHEREAS, he leaves to mourn his death his beloved
14 wife of 50 years, Voncille; two daughters, Johanna Cleary and
15 Susan (Bill) Sommers; sister, Louise (Jack) Amos; and seven
16 nephews and nieces; preceding him in death were his parents,
17 Bereman Leroy Cleary and Bertie Jones Cleary; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Cleary was a valued member of the
19 community whose presence will be greatly missed by all those
20 who were privileged to know him during the course of his long
21 and productive life; now therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
23 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. James R.
24 Cleary is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is

1 offered in highest tribute to his life of achievement and
2 service, along with heartfelt sympathy to his grieving family.

1

2

3

4

Speaker of the House of Representatives

5

6

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

7

House of Representatives

8 I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
9 and was adopted by the House 03-MAR-10.

10

11

12

13

Greg Pappas
Clerk

14

15

16

Senate

23-MAR-10

Adopted

17