

1 SJR99
2 160546-2
3 By Senators Williams, Allen, Beasley, Beason, Bedford,
4 Blackwell, Brewbaker, Bussman, Coleman, Dial, Dunn, Fielding,
5 Figures, Glover, Hightower, Holley, Holtzclaw, Irons, Keahey,
6 Marsh, McGill, Orr, Pittman, Reed, Ross, Sanders, Sanford,
7 Scofield, Singleton, Smith, Smitherman, Taylor, Waggoner,
8 Ward, and Whatley
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 19-MAR-14

1 SJR99

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4 ENROLLED, SJR99,

5 MOURNING THE DEATH OF COLONEL OLA LEE MIZE.
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7 WHEREAS, we note the death of Colonel Ola Lee Mize
8 of Gadsden, Alabama, on March 12, 2014, with deep sadness and
9 regret; his immeasurable life of 82 years is commended and
10 celebrated with great thanksgiving; and

11 WHEREAS, the passing of Colonel Mize leaves a void
12 in the lives of his loving family, many friends, and the
13 entire community, where he was highly regarded; and

14 WHEREAS, born in Marshall County in 1931, he entered
15 the Army as a "buck private" in 1948 and worked his way
16 through the ranks; he served with much honor and distinction
17 during three tours of duty in Vietnam, and he retired as a
18 Full Colonel with the Special Forces; during the last five
19 years of his distinguished military career, he was in charge
20 of the Special Forces School; and

21 WHEREAS, a hero and a tremendous leader, he earned
22 the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military honor, for
23 his meritorious service during the Korean War; he was known as
24 a "warrior's warrior" among his comrades; "he was a soldier's
25 leader," Etowah County's Veterans Affairs officer, Rick

1 Vaughan described his friend; "if you had to pick a leader to
2 go to war with, Lee Mize was the one you would want to pick;
3 you would absolutely want to go with him because you knew he
4 would take care of you, make sure you were prepared and had
5 all the skill and knowledge you need to get there and get back
6 safe;" and

7 WHEREAS, Colonel Mize desired for the men serving
8 under him to be honored as well when he received the Medal of
9 Honor; he attempted to turn down the prestigious award until
10 his men were also recognized; in addition, Colonel Mize was
11 nominated for a second Medal of Honor for his service in
12 Vietnam; and

13 WHEREAS, Colonel Mize was the most dedicated soldier
14 you could find, but most of all, he loved the Lord with his
15 heart, mind, and soul; If he could relay a message to the
16 world, it would be as follows: "Give your heart to the Lord
17 and live for Him;" he was a faithful and devoted member of
18 Southside Baptist Church; and

19 WHEREAS, through the years, Colonel Mize earned
20 immense respect for his tireless dedication and exceptional
21 abilities, and his unwavering commitment to the defense of
22 freedom and democracy was a tremendous source of credit upon
23 the United States; and

24 WHEREAS, survivors include his beloved and devoted
25 wife, Betty Mize; daughter, Teresa Peterson (Rodney);

1 grandchildren, Brandy Pearson, Jennifer Frachiseur, Katie
2 Smith (Chris) and Joshua Haney; great-grandchildren, Sarah
3 Haney, Luke Pearson, Drew Pearson, Landon Smith, Cason Smith,
4 and Hunter Haney; brothers, Gary Mize, Donald Mize, and Johnny
5 Mize; sisters, Judy Hienrich, Brenda Garza, and Della George;
6 brothers-in-law, Lee Jackson and Jack W. Coeey;
7 sisters-in-law, Denise Jackson Coeey and Kathy Shields
8 Jackson; numerous nieces and nephews; his chosen family, Joel
9 and Tammy Haney, Rick and Linda Vaughan, and many special
10 friends; and

11 WHEREAS, Colonel Mize was a valued member of the
12 community; although his presence is greatly missed; his memory
13 is cherished in the hearts and minds of all those who were
14 fortunate enough to know him; now therefore,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
16 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That while grieving the death of
17 Colonel Ola Lee Mize, we are highly grateful for his abundant
18 life, and we offer this resolution in highest tribute to his
19 inspiring legacy, as well as in heartfelt sympathy to his
20 family, friends, and colleagues.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR99

Senate 19-MAR-14

I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Adopted: 02-APR-14

By: Senator Williams