

1 HR50
2 217271-1
3 By Representative Sanderford
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 09-FEB-22

8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. MELVIN GENE BOWLING.
9

10 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
11 death on January 10, 2022, of Mr. Melvin Gene Bowling at the
12 age of 88; and

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

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Bowling was born on March 2, 1933, to
17 John Roy and Cora Lee Bowling in Lacey's Spring in Morgan
18 County, Alabama; he graduated from Union Hill High School in
19 1950 leading its basketball team to a 39-1 record and a State
20 Championship; his ability to "Shine" on the court earned him
21 the nickname which stayed with him throughout his life; he
22 attended The University of Alabama, playing basketball and
23 running track for the Crimson Tide; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Bowling was a loving husband, son,
25 father, grandfather, pilot, and missionary; proudly serving
26 his country in the United States Air Force for 28 years, Mr.
27 Bowling retired in 1982 as a Major General; his vast military

1 career included tours in Vietnam and Korea; he is the
2 recipient of the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, and the
3 Distinguished Flying Cross; and

4 WHEREAS, always the family man, Mr. Bowling left his
5 distinguished military career to enable his family to remain
6 in one place; after accepting Jesus around the time of his
7 retirement, ministering to all those he met became his passion
8 and mission; almost every encounter ended with a transition
9 from business proposals to Mr. Bowling asking, "Now how is
10 your relationship with the Lord?"; few met him without being
11 handed a Precious Bible Promises or Oswald Chambers book; his
12 faith was like his stature, life, and commitment to his family
13 and friends - big and contagious; and

14 WHEREAS, he is predeceased by his parents and
15 brother, James Roy "Bobo" Bowling; he is survived by his wife
16 of 63 years, Joan Bowling; sons, Mike Bowling (Rainer) and Jim
17 Bowling (Cheri); grandchildren, John Michael Bowling, Lucy
18 Bowling, Jake Bowling, Sam Bowling, Mathew Bowling, and
19 Johnathan Bowling; and a host of other relatives and many
20 friends; and

21 WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly
22 missed, the memory of Mr. Bowling will be cherished in the
23 hearts of all who knew and loved him; now therefore,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
25 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Mr. Melvin Gene
26 Bowling is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is

1 offered in tribute to his life, along with heartfelt sympathy
2 to his family.