

SJR23 INTRODUCED



1 AYYJSS-1

2 By Senators Allen, Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell, Butler,
3 Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman, Coleman-Madison,
4 Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Hovey, Jones,
5 Kelley, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed, Roberts,
6 Scofield, Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart,
7 Stutts, Waggoner, Weaver, Williams

8 RFD:

9 First Read: 05-Apr-23

10



1

2

3

4 SJR____ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JAMES
5 BUFORD BOONE, JR.

6

7 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
8 death of James Buford Boone, Jr. of Tuscaloosa and
9 Lowndesboro, Alabama, on February 13, 2023, at the age of
10 87; and

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

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Boone was born in Macon, Georgia, on
15 November 25, 1935, to James Buford Boone, Sr. and Frances
16 Herin Boone; he worked for his father's newspaper, The
17 Tuscaloosa News, as a high school and college student; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Boone was a 1958 graduate of The
19 University of Alabama School of Commerce and Business
20 Administration; upon graduation, he worked with his mentor,
21 Carmage Walls, holding positions with several Walls-owned
22 newspapers and gaining valuable experience, particularly
23 from the perspective of running the business side of
24 publishing; and

25 WHEREAS, in 1968, Mr. Boone succeeded his father as

SJR23 INTRODUCED



26 publisher of The Tuscaloosa News; over the following half
27 century, he continued to build a media company that now owns
28 or manages 91 newspapers, magazines, and other print media,
29 as well as digital products in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky,
30 Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, North Carolina,
31 Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia; last year, the company
32 changed its name to Boone Newsmedia, Incorporated to reflect
33 the growth and variety of publications both digitally and in
34 print; and

35 WHEREAS, over the years, Mr. Boone earned many
36 accolades and awards including an Honorary Doctor of Humane
37 Letters from The University of Alabama (UA); the Julia and
38 Henry Tutwiler Award from UA; the Lifetime Achievement Award
39 from the Alabama Press Association; the Casey Award from the
40 University of Minnesota; and the Frank Mayborn Award from
41 Southern Newspaper Publishers Association; he was inducted
42 into two UA Halls of Fame as well as the Civic Hall of Fame
43 for the West Alabama Chamber of Commerce; he was named a
44 Pillar of West Alabama by the Community Foundation of
45 Tuscaloosa; he was a proud Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of
46 America; and Mr. Boone served on the boards of many
47 professional organizations; and

48 WHEREAS, Mr. Boone was most proud of being a father
49 to his five children and being involved in his community; he
50 was a founding member of St. Paul's Anglican Church in

SJR23 INTRODUCED



51 Tuscaloosa; he served as a board member of many civic
52 organizations: Tuscaloosa Park and Recreation Authority
53 Board, past director and president of United Way of West
54 Alabama, Board of Trustees of the Westervelt-Warner Museum
55 of American Art in Tuscaloosa, past chairman of Salvation
56 Army Advisory Board, past director and president of YMCA of
57 Tuscaloosa, and past president of West Alabama Chamber of
58 Commerce; and

59 WHEREAS, Mr. Boone was preceded in death by his
60 parents and sister, Jeanette Boone Younkin; he will be
61 remembered by his wife of 36 years, Jane Carolyn Farrior
62 Boone; his children, Kenneth Scholl Boone (Mary Lyman), J.
63 Buford Boone III (Cindy), Lady Martha Frances Boone Cobbold
64 (Henry); Dr. Caroline Boone Rockefeller (Will), and
65 Catherine Boone Hadaway (Harrison); seven grandchildren; and
66 a host of nieces, nephews, other family, friends, and
67 colleagues; and

68 WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly
69 missed, the memory of Mr. Boone will be cherished by all who
70 knew and loved him; now therefore,

71 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
72 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of James Buford
73 Boone, Jr. is recorded with deep sadness, and this
74 resolution is offered in tribute to his life, along with
75 heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared by



SJR23 INTRODUCED

76 many.

77

78

79