

No. R-165. House concurrent resolution in memory of Richard Swift of Barre Town.

(H.C.R.119)

Offered by: Representatives Koch of Barre Town and McFaun of Barre Town

Whereas, for over four decades, Dick Swift was a Barre Town resident and in ways small and large made his community a better place, and

Whereas, he graduated from Thetford Academy, and

Whereas, Dick Swift enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving in the Mediterranean on the minesweeper U.S.S. Macomb, and

Whereas, he graduated from Becker Junior College, and

Whereas, the Swift family resided in several different towns in Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire before settling in Barre in 1968, and

Whereas, Dick Swift's employment included managing the McClellan retail store in St. Johnsbury, working as an insurance investigator, owning a bread business and a Thomas English Muffin sales route, working at General Electric in Burlington and at Capitol Stationers in Barre, working as a janitor at Spaulding High School, and painting houses, and

Whereas, Dick Swift discovered a new vocation in his 60s when he began substitute teaching at local schools, and

Whereas, at age 73, he was hired as a full-time substitute teacher at the Barre Town Middle and Elementary School, and he derived great pleasure working with youngsters in the classroom, and

Whereas, his fraternal and community memberships included the Lions Club, the Canadian Club, American Legion Post 10, Alcoholics Anonymous, where he volunteered as a sponsor and had achieved 54 years of sobriety, the Sno-Bees, and the Vermont Civil War Hemlocks in which he served as a captain, and

Whereas, Dick Swift raised and showed sheep, fished, hunted, skied, played horseshoes and cards, and coached baseball, and

Whereas, beginning in 1967, Dick Swift played a convincing Santa Claus, pleasing youngsters and truly enjoying the role, and

Whereas, Dick Swift was featured on WCAX television as a Super Senior, and

Whereas, on April 4, 2013, Dick Swift died at age 84, leaving his wife Mabel, children Sarah, Peter, and Candace, five grandchildren, three great grandchildren, his sister Joyce Isham, and his sister-in-law Susan Swift, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends sincere condolences to the family of Richard Swift, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to members of his family.