

**No. R-33. House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative Oreste Valsangiacomo Sr. of Barre City**

(H.C.R.15)

Offered by: Representatives Poirier of Barre City, Taylor of Barre City, Koch of Barre Town, and McFaun of Barre Town

Offered by: Senators Doyle, Cummings, and Pollina

Whereas, Oreste Valsangiacomo, widely known as Val, was a lifelong resident of Barre City and an inspiring community leader, and

Whereas, he was born in 1919 and graduated from Spaulding High School, and

Whereas, Val was a decorated Vermont National Guard veteran who served and was wounded in World War II and subsequently retired as a lieutenant colonel, and

Whereas, he was successful in both the insurance and real estate fields, and

Whereas, Val's life as a Democrat began at age 16 when he witnessed labor strife in Barre City and served as a runner delivering messages, and he would later sit on city, county, and state Democratic committees and serve as a delegate to the 1964 Democratic National Convention, and

Whereas, his abiding interest in politics led to a 34-year legislative career, starting with his first election in 1966, as a member of the House from Barre City, and he played a pivotal role in legislative deliberations, especially on financial matters, and

Whereas, Representative Oreste Valsangiacomo served as a House Democratic Whip and for many years as Chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means, during which his advocacy for education finance reform was best crystalized with the enactment of Act 60 in 1997, and

Whereas, he was also a Barre City justice of the peace and member of its board of civil authority, and he was active in various civic, fraternal, and veterans' organizations, and

Whereas, for many years, Val was a parishioner and lay leader at St. Monica's Church, and

Whereas, Val and his wife, Helen, were happily married for 70 years until her death just five days before his, and they were the parents of Oreste Jr., who along with two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, are their survivors, and

Whereas, Val and Helen Valsangiacomo were the proud parents of their special son, Jon, who predeceased them, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its sincere condolences to the family of its long-time colleague, former Representative Oreste Valsangiacomo Sr. of Barre City, and be it further

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