

No. R-82. House concurrent resolution in memory of former St. Albans Fire Chief Gary Glendon Palmer of Georgia.

(H.C.R.59)

Offered by: Representatives Rosenquist of Georgia, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Gamache of Swanton, Hubert of Milton, Keenan of St. Albans City, Parent of St. Albans Town, Savage of Swanton, and Turner of Milton

Offered by: Senators Branagan and Degree

Whereas, firefighting was Gary Palmer's life career, and he was a mentor for many of his professional colleagues, and

Whereas, Gary Palmer was born in St. Albans and in 1967 graduated from Bellows Free Academy, and

Whereas, in 1971, he joined the St. Albans Fire Department and as a rookie on the force proved an attentive student, and

Whereas, during the next 13 years, Gary Palmer rose steadily through the department's ranks, impressing his superiors, and

Whereas, in 1984, the St. Albans Fire Department named Gary Palmer as its chief, and

Whereas, for 23 years, Chief Gary Palmer served with distinction, proving an ideal leader for the department as it extinguished blazes in St. Albans and provided mutual firefighting aid for neighboring communities, and

Whereas, in 2007, after 36 years as a valued member of the St. Albans Fire Department, Chief Gary Palmer concluded his public service in Franklin County's largest municipality, and

Whereas, Gary Palmer's departure from St. Albans could not be characterized as a retirement from the firefighting profession as he assumed a new role as Assistant State Fire Marshall, and

Whereas, in the field, Gary Palmer continued responding to the Georgia Volunteer Fire Department's alarm for assistance, serving his community with the proficient skills he had mastered during an illustrious firefighting career, and

Whereas, Gary Palmer was an avid deer hunter who enjoyed annual Palmer Boys fall outings as well as maple sugaring in the spring and family camping in the summer, and

Whereas, Gary Palmer and his wife, Mary, were married for 43 years, and were the parents of Tamera and Timothy, and the grandparents of five grandchildren and four stepgrandchildren, and

Whereas, on January 16, 2017, Gary Palmer died at 68 years of age, leaving a legacy of firefighting excellence for others to emulate, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Gary Palmer of Georgia, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of Gary Palmer's family.