

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 71

House concurrent resolution in memory of Thomas C. Davis of Barre Town

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

Offered by: Senators Brooks, Cummings, and Pollina

Whereas, Tom Davis, a 17th-generation Vermonter and son of former Governor Deane Davis, was deeply devoted to social justice and his lifelong hometown of Barre, and

Whereas, after graduating from Spaulding High School and earning bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Vermont, Tom Davis forged a public service career focused on helping the less fortunate, and

Whereas, in the 1960s, despite the strong resistance from community groups in both Windsor and Windham Counties, Tom Davis's talent, vision, and perseverance resulted in the formation of Southeastern Vermont Community Action, and later in 1966, Governor Philip Hoff appointed Tom Davis as the Director of the Vermont Office of Economic Opportunity, and

Whereas, in the 1970s, Governor Thomas Salmon handed Tom Davis a broader assignment as Secretary of Human Services, and

Whereas, knowing of Tom Davis's passion for making government a positive force for helping others and his leadership experience, U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy appointed Tom Davis as the senator's State Director, and

Whereas, Tom Davis subsequently moved from Congress to the Executive Branch, accepting an appointment as the Regional Representative for the U.S. Department of Labor, and

Whereas, Tom Davis's distinguished public service career was merely one aspect of a busy, productive, and meaningful life, and

Whereas, a creative mind with a literary bent and a gift for telling stories enabled him to write two mystery novels and three volumes of memoirs, and

Whereas, Tom Davis's pride in Barre City was manifested through his service on the Board of the Barre Historical Society-Old Labor Hall and as president of the closely associated Vermont Labor History Society, and on a broader scale, he sat on several other nonprofit boards, including the Committee on Vermont Elders, the American Heart Association, and the Vermont Historical Society, and

Whereas, he continued serving as a volunteer advocate for the less fortunate and amazingly found time for many leisure activities ranging from the golf course to the chess table, and

Whereas, on February 16, 2017, Tom Davis died at 85 years of age and his survivors include his wife, Delores, to whom he was married for 65 years; nine children; ten grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Thomas C. Davis of Barre Town, and be it further

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