

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 160

House concurrent resolution in memory of veteran Pownal firefighter Kenneth Carlton O'Dell

Offered by: Representatives Brownell of Pownal and Morrissey of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, the citizens of the Town of Pownal were well acquainted with their neighbor Ken O'Dell, and

Whereas, Ken O'Dell spent his working career as a burner technician, and

Whereas, Ken O'Dell's devotion to the Pownal Fire Department is an important chapter in the organization's history, as, for an amazing 65 years, he regularly responded to the department's calls to repel blazes and assist with urgent rescues, and

Whereas, seldom does a volunteer firefighter compile such an extensive record of public service, and Ken O'Dell's life choice to don a firefighter's uniform from his early 20s until his death at 88 years of age is most remarkable, and

Whereas, outdoor activities were a special pleasure for Ken O'Dell, as he found great pleasure in camping, gardening, hunting, and fishing, and

Whereas, his family was of great personal importance, and he avidly cheered for professional football's New York Giants, and

Whereas, although Ken O'Dell's recreational and family interests were a central aspect of his life, the community service he offered was nonetheless superb, and

Whereas, for many years, he was the Oak Hill Cemetery Superintendent, helping to ensure that the departed were properly looked after, and

Whereas, the death of Ken O'Dell, on February 3, 2024, marked the passing of a man who had been married to Eva Anne Leonard for 64 years, until her death in 2019, and he is survived by his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its condolences to the family of Kenneth Carlton O'Dell, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the family of Ken O'Dell and to the Pownal Fire Department.