**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE DEATHS OF TED LESLEY ELKINS AND IRENE K. ELKINS OF COLUMBIA AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO THEIR FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives were deeply saddened to learn of the deaths of Ted Lesley Elkins, eighty‑five, and his beloved wife, Irene K. Elkins, eighty‑four, both of Columbia, on March 14, 2012, and May 19, 2012, respectively; and

Whereas, a native of Columbia, Ted Lesley Elkins was born to George Davis Elkins and Lillie Bell Thomas Elkins on September 27, 1926; and

Whereas, truly a member of “America’s Greatest Generation,” Ted Elkins and his four brothers served simultaneously in various branches of our country’s armed services during World War II. Mr. Elkins spent his naval tour of duty as a mechanic at the Naval Air Station in Florida, earning the American Area Medal and the Victory Medal. He retired after thirty‑eight years of service with DuPont; and

Whereas, Ted Elkins was a member of Spring Valley Baptist Church, where he served the Lord in many ways. Clearly living an authentic faith, he was a faithful husband, loving father, and obedient servant to his Lord. A man of his word, he loved his family and always placed their needs above his own; and

Whereas, Irene K. Elkins, born July 2, 1927, in Buffalo, was the daughter of Eddie Leroy Kingsmore and Annie Lou Stapleton Kingsmore. A proven warrior for Christ, she was a dedicated member of Spring Valley Baptist Church and the Prayer and Praise Sunday School class. Throughout her years of service to the church, she taught young‑adult and senior‑adult Sunday School classes, sang in the worship and senior‑adult choirs, and coordinated a church program, Agape Friends, which ministered to shut‑ins and residents of nursing homes; and

Whereas, married for sixty‑one years, Ted and Irene Elkins leave to cherish their memory their daughter, Elizabeth Anne Blackwell; a son, Gary S. Elkins; four grandchildren; and a host of other family members and friends. They will be greatly missed. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, express their profound sorrow upon the deaths of Ted Lesley Elkins and Irene K. Elkins of Columbia and extend the deepest sympathy to their family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Gary S. Elkins for the family.

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