**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UPON THE PASSING OF JOSEPH E. “JOE” SHARPE, SR., OF BLYTHEWOOD AND TO EXTEND THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Joseph E. “Joe” Sharpe, Sr., of Blythewood on June 18, 2021, at the venerable age of seventy‑nine; and

Whereas, born in Columbia on January 10, 1942, he was a son of John Lawrence Sharpe, Jr., and Mardenia Hatchell Sharpe. Joe graduated from Eau Claire High School in 1960 and served in the Army National Guard. In 1963, he married the love of his life, the former Jennie Stockman, and in 1968 built their home on Family Circle, where they raised their three children; and

Whereas, after a brief career in the heating and air industry, Joe and Jennie took over his parents’ service station in 1976. A thriving business that has evolved over the years, Joe Sharpe’s Service Station continues to be a mainstay in the community; and

Whereas, Joe was a servant in all aspects of his life, to God, family, friends, customers, and anyone in need. He served on the Fairfield Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees for forty‑six years and was honored to serve its members and lead by example, ensuring its success. Recently, he was overjoyed to be reelected to another term on the board, of which he was president from 1984 to 2018. In 2019, he was honored with the Lineman in the Board Room award for his time as president; and

Whereas, further, Joe was a member of Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, Blythewood Masonic Lodge, Jamil Temple, and the Blythewood Rotary Club; and

Whereas, this outdoor enthusiast always enjoyed the game of golf with his special golfing group and relished spending time in his yard and garden and planting dove fields. He also spent quality time with his grandchildren, who will continue his legacy; and

Whereas, he leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife of fifty‑seven years, Jennie Stockman Sharpe; his daughters, Becky Brooks (John) and Kellie Ballentine (Dennis); a son, Joseph “Joey” Sharpe, Jr. (Suzie); his grandchildren, J.J. Brooks, Blaire Howell (Louis), Walter Ballentine, Mary Kathryn Ballentine, Joseph “Jes” Sharpe III, Hoffman Sharpe, and Monty Sharpe; and a host of other family members and friends. He 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 passing of Joseph E. “Joe” Sharpe, Sr., of Blythewood and extend the deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Jennie Stockman Sharpe for the family.

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