

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Second Extraordinary Session, 2024

SMR 1

4  
5 By: Senator K. Hammer

6  
7 **SENATE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**

8 TO HONOR THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF MR. CURTIS  
9 OLAN FERGUSON.

10  
11  
12 **Subtitle**

13 TO HONOR THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF  
14 MR. CURTIS OLAN FERGUSON.

15  
16  
17 WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Olan Ferguson of Benton, Arkansas, passed away on  
18 June 16, 2024; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Ferguson moved to Benton from the Crows Station  
21 area in the late 1950s; and

22  
23 WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Ferguson made a living selling appliances and tires  
24 for Goodyear and it did not take him long to work his way up to being the  
25 youngest manager in the Memphis region; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Ferguson met Ms. Vera Richardson of Bryant soon  
28 after moving to Benton and they were married; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Ferguson and Mrs. Vera Ferguson had two (2) sons,  
31 Wyatt and Bart; and

32  
33 WHEREAS, in 1963, the Fergusons opened Ferguson's Town & Country  
34 Furniture, TVs & Appliances and later built what is now Ferguson's Furniture;  
35 and



1           WHEREAS, as a business owner Mr. Curtis Ferguson was outspoken voice  
2 for local businesses and led the charge to even the playing field on charging  
3 online companies the same tax rate as local businesses; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Ferguson was instrumental in the development of the  
6 Benton and Bryant area; and  
7

8           WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Ferguson instilled his work ethic not only in his  
9 children but also in his grandchildren by giving them tailor made jobs around  
10 the furniture store which were also known as the "Curtis school of hard  
11 knocks"; and  
12

13           WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Ferguson served as the President of the Benton  
14 Chamber of Commerce and helped secure the land and building where the current  
15 Chamber of Commerce is located; and  
16

17           WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Ferguson was a pilot and enjoyed every aspect of  
18 aviation; and  
19

20           WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Ferguson:

21                   (1) Was a larger-than-life figure who had a laugh that infected  
22 all who knew him;

23                   (2) Was a storyteller at his core and his stories caused roars  
24 of laughter from everyone;

25                   (3) Lived life with one hundred percent (100%) intentionality,  
26 punching a straw in the middle of life and drinking all it had to offer; and

27                   (4) Left tangible memories with anyone he came in contact with,  
28 especially his grandchildren; and  
29

30           WHEREAS, Mr. Curtis Ferguson had the rare quality to leave "Curtis  
31 sized" impression on people and the Benton community will be forever impacted  
32 by his legacy,  
33

34 NOW THEREFORE,

35 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
36 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36

THAT the Senate express sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Curtis Ferguson and commend his contributions to the State of Arkansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be provided to the family of Mr. Curtis Ferguson by the Secretary of the Senate.