



State of Wisconsin  
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3940/1  
CMH:cdc&amn

## 2019 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 81

September 5, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives KURTZ, TRANEL, NOVAK, ALLEN, BILLINGS, CONSIDINE, CROWLEY, DITTRICH, DUCHOW, EDMING, FELZKOWSKI, GRUSZYNSKI, GUNDRUM, HESSELBEIN, HINTZ, HORLACHER, KATSMA, KERKMAN, KOLSTE, KNODL, KRUG, KULP, LOUDENBECK, B. MEYERS, MILROY, MURPHY, MURSAU, NEUBAUER, NEYLON, OHNSTAD, OLDENBURG, PETRYK, POPE, PLUMER, PRONSCHINSKE, RAMTHUN, ROHRKASTE, SARGENT, SCHRAA, SHANKLAND, SINICKI, SPIROS, SPREITZER, STEFFEN, STEINEKE, SUBECK, SUMMERFIELD, TAUCHEN, THIESFELDT, TUSLER, VANDERMEER, VRUWINK, WICHGERS, WITTKE, ZAMARRIPA and ZIMMERMAN, cosponsored by Senators MARKLEIN, CARPENTER, COWLES, DARLING, JACQUE, KAPENGA, KOOYENGA, MILLER, NASS, OLSEN, PETROWSKI, RINGHAND, ROTH and WIRCH. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1     **Relating to:** honoring the life and public service of Representative Edward A.  
2         Brooks.

3         Whereas, Edward “Ed” Brooks was a lifelong dairy farmer, loan officer, U.S.  
4     Army Reserve veteran, loving husband and father, proud grandfather, friend to all,  
5     and dedicated public servant; and

6         Whereas, Ed was born on July 1, 1942, in Baraboo, Wisconsin, graduating from  
7     Webb High School (Reedsburg) in 1960, and graduating with a B.S. in Agricultural  
8     Economics, University of Wisconsin–Madison in 1965; and

9         Whereas, Ed worked as a loan officer for Production Credit Association, and as  
10    a county supervisor with the U.S. Department of Agriculture for a short time after  
11    graduating from UW–Madison, before returning to the farm and his true passion,  
12    dairy farming; and

13         Whereas, Ed had many other roles throughout his career including 18 years as  
14    chair of a Wisconsin–based, multi-state dairy product cooperative, Foremost Farms

1 USA, Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives chair, National Milk Producers Board  
2 vice-chair, 4-H Club leader, St. John Lutheran Church Council president; and

3 Whereas, Ed began his foray into public service at the local level, elected to the  
4 Reedsburg Town Board in 1979, becoming Town of Reedsburg chair in 1985 and  
5 serving in that role for 34 years; and

6 Whereas, Ed was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 2008 and served  
7 as a state representative for the 50th Assembly District (which he referred to as the  
8 “Best Assembly District” simply because all his constituents made it the best) for five  
9 terms, representing Juneau County and parts of Monroe, Richland, Sauk, and  
10 Vernon Counties; and

11 Whereas, Ed served as the chairman of the Assembly Committee on Local  
12 Government in 2017-18, and chairman of the Assembly Committee on Urban and  
13 Local Affairs in 2011-16, championed rural and local affairs—working to see that  
14 residents in rural Wisconsin were recognized as a valuable resource to the state, and  
15 was an advocate for rural schools, funding for rural broadband and funding for town  
16 roads; and

17 Whereas, Ed married his loving wife, Barbara Wolfgram Brooks, in 1966,  
18 raising three daughters, Kelli, Lisa, and Julie, together during their marriage of 52  
19 years; and

20 Whereas, Ed’s life on the farm kept him very busy, but when he did find time  
21 to get away, he enjoyed traveling by train, with Barb by his side. There were many  
22 adventures on Amtrak, as family time was very important to him, and he genuinely  
23 enjoyed visiting with people in the district; and

