
ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: the life and public service of Nile W. Soik.

Whereas, Nile W. Soik was born on May 2, 1923, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and died on August 3, 2001, in Whitefish Bay; and

Whereas, he graduated from Riverside High School; received a B.S. degree in engineering from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1945, graduating in the top 10% of his class; and earned an M.B.A. degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1951, and a Ph.D. degree from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York; and

Whereas, he served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the Philippines; and

Whereas, he worked as a trainer in the human resources department at Allen–Bradley Company and taught courses at Marquette University, Milwaukee School of Engineering, Lakeland College, Milwaukee Technical College, and Cardinal Stritch University; and

Whereas, he was elected to the assembly in 1960 and served from 1961 to 1969, and then was elected to the senate in 1968 and served from 1969 to 1973; and

Whereas, he served as chairperson of the assembly Labor Committee and the Legislative Council’s Nuclear Facilities Committee; and

Whereas, he introduced a bill in the 1971 legislature relating to the right to die with dignity and permitting every person to “refuse and deny the use or application by any person of artificial, extraordinary, extreme or radical medical or surgical means or procedures calculated to prolong his life,” 12 years before living–will legislation was adopted in this state; and

Whereas, he worked for years as a volunteer counselor on a crisis hotline, was active in his church, and served as a delegate at synodal events of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and

Whereas, he was an outdoors enthusiast who loved canoeing, hiking, fishing, and hunting, and first met his wife of 51 years, Carol, at a Hoofers meeting at the University of Wisconsin–Madison; and

Whereas, he believed strongly in the traditions of integrity, excellence, sacrifice, and self–discipline; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin legislature commend the devoted public service of Nile W. Soik to this state, express their sorrow at his death, and extend condolences to his family and friends; and, be it further

Resolved, That the senate chief clerk shall provide copies of this joint resolution to Mr. Soik’s wife, Carol, and his sons, Matthew and Paul.

Representative Scott R. Jensen
Speaker of the Assembly

Senator Fred A. Risser
President of the Senate

Date

Donald J. Schneider
Senate Chief Clerk