

1997 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 19

April 16, 1997 – Introduced by Senator C. POTTER, cosponsored by Representative Olsen. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: the life and public service of Amza Vail.
Whereas, Amza Vail was born on September 29, 1927, in Benton, and died on
March 25, 1997, in Madison; and
Whereas, he graduated from Benton High School and Platteville Teacher's
College, earned a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and
completed a substantial amount of work toward his doctorate at that university; and
Whereas, he taught in the Platteville public schools and, due to his obvious
administrative ability, rose through the ranks at Platteville to become a junior high
school principal, the principal of Platteville High School and the superintendent of
the Platteville public schools; and
Whereas, he joined the department of public instruction in 1977 as a school
finance consultant and, before his retirement in 1995, he served that agency also as
the administrator of the division for financial aids, as the legislative liaison, as the
director of the bureau for school management and as the director of the bureau for
state school aids; and
Whereas, a litany of the positions he held merely scratches the surface of the
benefits that Amza provided to the residents of this state; and

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1	Whereas, hundreds of persons who were students of the Platteville public
2	schools while Amza was a teacher or administrator there are better persons because
3	of his influence on them; and
4	Whereas, he inspired his 2 children to make public education their careers, so
5	that they will keep his spirit alive; and
6	Whereas, during his tenure at the department of public instruction, his grasp
7	of educational issues, his commitment to the children and youth of this state and his
8	personal relations skills made him a valuable member of that department and an
9	effective link between that department and local school officials; and
10	Whereas, those same qualities made him a trusted source of information for
11	legislators and other persons in state government; and
12	Whereas, Amza on countless occasions lifted the spirits of others with his firm
13	handshake, his broad grin and his hearty manner; all of which indicated his abiding
14	affection for others and the zest with which he lived; now, therefore, be it
15	Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the members of the
16	Wisconsin legislature commend the many decades of effective public service that
17	Amza Vail rendered to them and to the other persons of this state, express their
18	sorrow at his death and extend their condolences to his family, to his multitude of
19	friends and to the many persons whose lives he enriched; and, be it further
20	Resolved, That the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
21	resolution to Amza Vail's wife, Margaret, and to his children, Rebecca and Will.
22	(END)

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