

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 175

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Wallace Alley of
Hawkins County.

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Wallace Alley; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alley was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Hawkins County, Mr. Alley was a highly respected member of the Kingsport and Church Hill communities; and

WHEREAS, Wallace Alley enjoyed a lifetime of entrepreneurship, starting when he was thirteen years old and delivered coal to customers in the Church Hill community; at fourteen, he was awarded a contract to deliver coal to schools in eastern Hawkins County, and at fifteen, he ran a school bus route for Hawkins County Schools; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation from Church Hill High School, Mr. Alley joined the United States Navy and served from 1944 to 1946, fighting for his country during World War II; and

WHEREAS, when he was discharged at the end of the war, Mr. Alley attended Vanderbilt University and graduated with a degree in business administration in 1948; and

WHEREAS, in 1949, Mr. Alley opened his first automotive dealership, Alley Motor Company in Church Hill; at the age of twenty-three, Mr. Alley became the youngest person ever granted a Chrysler franchise; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alley also opened a GMC truck franchise in 1950, a Chrysler-Plymouth dealership in Kingsport in 1960, and a Dodge-Jaguar-Saab dealership in 1978; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alley was an active community leader, and, in 1958, he helped incorporate Church Hill and became its first city manager; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alley held numerous leadership roles, including founder and first chairman of United Security Bank in Mount Carmel, president and thirty-year member of the Kingsport Civitan Club, member of the board of trustees of Emory and Henry College, and chairman of the Kingsport Industrial Development Board; and

WHEREAS, he also served as director of Holston Valley Hospital, Holston Mental Health Center, ETSU/UT University Center Foundation and Advisory Board, and the ETSU Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Wallace Alley served with acumen and alacrity as a member of the Greater Kingsport Chamber of Commerce, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and supervisors alike for the superior quality of his work; he served as its president in 1976, and he was later named a lifetime member; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, Mr. Alley was honored by being named a laureate of Junior Achievement of the Tri-Cities Business Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Wallace Alley leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Wallace Alley, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Alley.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.