

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 12

Introduced by Gragert, 40.

WHEREAS, Judge Merritt C. Warren of Creighton was a serviceman, dedicated public servant, and community leader; and

WHEREAS, Judge Warren entered the Navy's Midshipman program where he was sent to Doane College, Northwestern University, and Cornell University before serving in the Mediterranean Sea during World War II. He was honorably discharged as a Lieutenant after the war; and

WHEREAS, Judge Warren married Geraldine "Gerry" Gillespie, on November 4, 1945; and

WHEREAS, Judge Warren opened a law office in Creighton, Nebraska, in 1949, where he was soon appointed City Attorney. He was appointed to serve as Knox County Attorney and was later elected to the position, serving for several years. He practiced law in Creighton from 1949 to 1969, when he was appointed District Judge by Governor Norbert Tiemann; and

WHEREAS, Judge Warren served on the bench for 22 years, retiring in 1991, then spending several years as a senior judge, including assignments to the Court of Appeals and Nebraska Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, Judge Warren was especially active in the Creighton community, serving on the school board, hospital board, and the Creighton Historical Center board. He was also a member of the Creighton Volunteer Fire Department and was an active member of the United Church of Christ, where he sang in the choir and taught Sunday school. Furthermore, he helped pass Nebraska's motorcycle helmet law, worked with Santee Sioux tribal leaders to improve the Knox County Reservation, and was a member of the American Legion and VFW; and

WHEREAS, Gerry predeceased Judge Warren on May 17, 2005; and

WHEREAS, on December 28, 2013, Judge Warren married Paula Owens, and the

couple enjoyed spending time together and with family in his later years; and

WHEREAS, Judge Warren was the father of five children, Bruce, Merritt, Jean, Sue, and Scott; and

WHEREAS, Judge Warren was the grandfather of fourteen grandchildren, the great-grandfather of sixteen great-grandchildren, and the great-great-grandfather of one great-great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, Judge Warren's commitment to the people of Nebraska was evident by his actions and service to his community and the state; and

WHEREAS, Judge Merritt C. Warren passed away on October 10, 2020, at the age of 97.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature recognizes the passion of Judge Merritt C. Warren and his dedication to his community and the State of Nebraska.
2. That the Legislature offers its condolences to the family of Judge Merritt C. Warren.
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of Judge Merritt C. Warren.