

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 547

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Jeffery Alan Hartline of Lebanon.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Jeffery Alan Hartline of Lebanon; and

WHEREAS, Jeffery Hartline 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, born in Rome, Georgia, on October 14, 1955, Mr. Hartline was the son of John William Hartline and JoAnne Stewart Hartline, and he attended the Greater Atlanta Christian School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hartline earned a bachelor's degree in biblical studies from Freed-Hardeman University, and before earning his master's degree in religious studies from Lipscomb University in 1998, he attended the Harding Graduate School of Theology in Memphis and worked at Floyd Avenue Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong student of the Bible and culture, Jeffery Hartline was proud to have served as a worship leader, teacher, elder, summer camp director, and Room in the Inn coordinator, among several other roles, at the Ashwood/Woodmont Hills Church of Christ; he later served Antioch Church of Christ as a teacher and volunteer; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hartline and his family moved to Lebanon in 2021 and joined College Hills Church of Christ, where he assisted in leading worship and teaching adult classes; additionally, he taught high school history at the Whitver Academy and Bible classes at Lipscomb University for several semesters; and

WHEREAS, a leader in his community, Jeffery Hartline devoted his time and resources as a baseball coach for ten years and played a key role in creating the first-ever Homeschool World Series in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hartline was a gentleman of many talents and interests and devoted the last twenty years of his life to engaging in both State and local politics, running for elected office, managing successful campaigns for others, and serving within political organizations such as the Wilson County GOP and the Tennessee Firearms Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hartline was also deeply devoted to his family and always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Jeffery Hartline was joined in holy matrimony with Melodie Lynn Hopkins in December 1978 at Floyd Avenue Church in Memphis; their blessed union resulted in three children, Megan Leigh (Hayes Holland), Wesley Benjamin (Miles), and Logan Andrew (Jill), and eleven grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hartline 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 we 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 FOURTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Jeffery Alan Hartline, 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. Hartline.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.