

2020 -- H 8186

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF KEVIN JOHN KENNEDY

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Kennedy, and Lima

Date Introduced: December 14, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the House Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Kevin John Kennedy passed away on October 23, 2020, after a courageous
2 and tenacious battle against his illness. He was the beloved husband of Janet Kennedy and he was
3 the devoted father of the late Ronald John Kennedy; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Kennedy was born in Westerly, on September 3, 1959, son of the late
5 Ronald and Jeanette Kennedy. He is survived by his wife Janet Veldhuis Kennedy and their
6 beloved dog Cody. He was the brother of the Honorable Brian Patrick Kennedy, Tracey Anne
7 Kennedy and her husband, Ron, and Erin Beth Kennedy Celico and her husband, Robert. He is
8 also survived by many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, friends and colleagues; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Kennedy was a hardworking man who began his career in the building
10 industry working as a carpenter, including many years with his own father, where he quickly
11 secured a reputation for producing excellent work at fair prices. For the last nearly thirty years
12 Kevin excelled as an outside salesman for the Arnold Lumber Company in West Kingston. He
13 was their top salesman for seventeen of those years, working on the mainland and on Block
14 Island, selling building materials. Kevin quickly secured a reputation for quality and fairness
15 from his many customers and forged many close friendships with them due to their appreciation
16 and admiration for his tireless work ethic, honesty, and vast knowledge of issues related to the
17 building industry; and

18 WHEREAS, Kevin was an avid outdoorsman who loved living life with his wife and dog
19 along the waterfront of Locustville Pond in Hope Valley, as well as enjoying the wintery snow on
20 his snowmobile in Vermont and Canada. Kevin also enjoyed hunting, fishing, boating, four-

1 wheeling, riding motorcycles, golfing, playing cards, and cooking holiday meals. He also
2 excelled at distance running and played softball in his younger years. Kevin was a passionate
3 sports fan who followed all of the Boston area sports teams and loved to watch games in person;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Kennedy was a graduate of, and dedicated donor to the University of
6 Rhode Island. He was a lifetime member of the Ashaway Sportsman's Club, the Ashaway
7 Volunteer Fire Department and was a loyal member of Ducks Unlimited and the Fraternal Order
8 of Police. He will live forever in the hearts of his loving family and many friends, and will be
9 long-remembered for his effervescent smile, sense of humor and generosity of spirit; now,
10 therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives hereby expresses its deepest
12 condolences on the passing of Kevin John Kennedy; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
14 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Mrs. Janet Veldhuis Kennedy, the Honorable
15 Brian Patrick Kennedy, Tracey Anne Kennedy, and Erin Beth Kennedy Celico.

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