

2022 -- H 8046

LC005477

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF DONALD ARTHUR  
LITTLEFIELD

Introduced By: Representatives Filippi, Blazejewski, and McLaughlin

Date Introduced: March 24, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with deep sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Donald  
2 Arthur Littlefield, born in Wakefield to Captain Oswald and Isobel Littlefield. He was a 10th  
3 generation Block Islander, and the devoted husband of Lydia Rathbun Littlefield for 63 years;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, As a youngster, Mr. Littlefield spent his summers at the tip of Sandy Point  
6 in the Commander of the U.S. Saving Service cottage, and later at his grandfather Captain  
7 Amazon Littlefield's home on Corn Neck Road; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Littlefield graduated from Old Lyme High School in Connecticut, and  
9 received a Bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut. After graduation, he served with  
10 distinction as a Lieutenant in the United States Army, where he was stationed in France and  
11 served as a comptroller at an aerial re-support center during the Korean War; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Littlefield was employed for most of his life within the insurance  
13 industry. He began his distinguished professional career with the Aetna Insurance Company in  
14 Hartford, before transferring to Boston. In 1959, he joined the J.R. Tallman Insurance Company,  
15 serving as Vice President and General Manager; and

16 WHEREAS, For his entire life, Mr. Littlefield was a very civic-minded person who  
17 strived daily to make the community around him a better place to reside within. He served as the  
18 President of Morton Hospital, President of Rotary International, and as a Paul A. Fellow. He was  
19 also a member of the Taunton Savings Bank Board of Directors, Pilgrim Congregational Church

1 Board of Managers, a United Way Business Division Chairman, Commissioner of the Old  
2 Colony Historical Society and as a Lifetime Member of the Block Island Historical Society.  
3 While living in Old Lyme, Mr. Littlefield joined the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons,  
4 Pythagoras Lodge #45, and was later a member of the King David Lodge in Taunton; and

5 WHEREAS, While residing in Raynham, Mr. Littlefield served as the President of the  
6 Edgewood Swim and Tennis Club, on the Board of Directors of the Raynham Public Library, and  
7 as President of the Attleboro Ski Club; and

8 WHEREAS, Upon retiring in 1994, Mr. Littlefield and his wife moved to their summer  
9 home on Block Island. He served on the Original North Light Commission for twenty years, on  
10 the Block Island Conservancy Board of Directors, Harbor Church Board of Directors, Town of  
11 New Shoreham Conservation Commission, and on the Double Ender Committee. He was honored  
12 as Grand Marshal of the Block Island Fourth of July Parade for his twenty years of enthusiastic  
13 participation, as Vice Commander of American Legion Post 36, where he was known for his  
14 expertise on flag etiquette, and as a member of the Block Island Gardeners. He also enjoyed  
15 sailing his Pearson day-sailor, Eagle, in Great Salt Pond; and

16 WHEREAS, In addition to his wife Lydia, Mr. Littlefield leaves his children, Laura  
17 Bourne, Pamela Gasner and her husband, John, Lynn Lucier and her husband, Rob, and Betsy  
18 Littlefield, as well as nine grandchildren, William, Noah, and Julia Gasner, Kelsey and Jonathan  
19 Bourne, and Nancy, David, Keith and Kimberly Lucier. He was predeceased by his brothers,  
20 James, William, Richard and Bradford Littlefield, and is survived by his sister, Isobel Shapleigh  
21 and her husband, Donald, and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins; now, therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
23 expresses its condolences on the passing of Donald Arthur Littlefield; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
25 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Lydia Rathbun Littlefield.

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