

1 SJR81  
2 27922-2  
3 By Senators Little (T), Armistead, Barron, Bedford, Biddle,  
4 Butler, Callahan, Clay, Denton, Dial, Dixon, Enfinger,  
5 Escott-Russell, Figures, French, Holley, Langford, Lee,  
6 Lindsey, Lipscomb, Little (Z), Marsh, McClain, Means,  
7 Mitchell, Mitchem, Myers, Poole, Preuitt, Roberts, Sanders,  
8 Smith, Smitherman, Steele, and Waggoner  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 23-MAR-2000

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Enrolled, SJR81,

MOURNING THE DEATH OF EUGENE C. GWALTNEY, JR.

WHEREAS, it is with deep, abiding sorrow and regret that the Alabama Legislature notes the recent death of Eugene C. Gwaltney, Jr., a corporate and community leader, on March 9, 2000; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gwaltney was born January 25, 1918, in Rock Hill, South Carolina, to the late Eugene C. Gwaltney, Sr. and Marion Johnson Gwaltney; and

WHEREAS, he received his higher education at Georgia Institute of Technology, earning a B.S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering, and he also attended graduate school at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and

WHEREAS, with deep bravery and a great sense of duty to his country, he was a member of the United States Army Corps of Engineers from 1941-1945, serving in the European Theater of Operation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gwaltney later became a cornerstone in the textile manufacturing industry when he joined Russell Corporation in 1952 as Director of Research and Quality; due to his exceptional business abilities and tireless efforts to better the company, he rose quickly through the ranks over his 41-year career and became General Superintendent, Vice President and Director, President and Chief Operations

1 Officer, Chief Executive Officer and President, Chairman of  
2 the Board and Chief Executive Officer, and ultimately Chairman  
3 of the Board; and

4 WHEREAS, due to his incredible insight and selfless  
5 work, Russell Corporation's sales grew from \$51 million in  
6 1968 to \$899 million in 1992; this exponential growth not only  
7 greatly enhanced the economy and charitable donations made in  
8 Alexander City by Russell Corporation, but also made Russell  
9 Corporation a nationally recognized leader in its industry;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, due to his numerous contributions to city  
12 and county governments, it is well noted that the Tallapoosa  
13 County Commission has also extended its strong appreciation  
14 for the life and leadership that Eugene C. Gwaltney, Jr. gave  
15 the Russell Corporation, as he contributed greatly to the  
16 quality of life for all Tallapoosa County citizens;  
17 additionally, he was a friend, confidant, and advisor to  
18 Senator Ted Little and Representative Betty Carol Graham, and  
19 his political and business savvy will be sorely missed by  
20 them; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Gwaltney was also recognized and  
22 honored by innumerable organizations for his business  
23 accomplishments, with awards including an Honorary Doctor of  
24 Laws Degree from the University of Alabama, Alexander City Man

1 of the Year, Textile Man of the Year, and Alabama Business  
2 Hall of Fame; and

3 WHEREAS, in addition to his corporate honors, he was  
4 also known for his incredible generosity to numerous  
5 charitable and civic organizations, including Russell  
6 Hospital, American Education Foundation, Boy Scouts of  
7 America, and Birmingham-Southern College; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Gwaltney is survived by his loving  
9 wife, the former Nancy Russell; two daughters, Elizabeth  
10 "Tina" Gwaltney Baird and Nancy Gwaltney Klopman; two sons,  
11 Eugene C. Gwaltney, III and George W. Gwaltney; nine  
12 grandchildren, and countless other friends and relatives whose  
13 lives were forever touched by his grace and love; now  
14 therefore,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
16 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the lamentable death of Eugene  
17 C. Gwaltney, Jr. is noted with great sadness, as his loss will  
18 forever leave a void in the hearts of all who knew and cared  
19 for him.

20 RESOLVED FURTHER, That an appropriate copy of this  
21 resolution be provided to his beloved wife, Nancy, in honor  
22 and memory of a truly great and courageous individual.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR81

Senate 23-MAR-2000  
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution  
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

McDowell Lee  
Secretary

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House of Representatives  
Adopted: 04-APR-2000

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By: Senator Little (T)