

House Resolution No. 828

Whereas, it is with tremendous respect that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause in their diverse legislative endeavors in order to recognize those Show-Me State residents who have proven to be invaluable citizens in their local communities and neighborhoods through their services as firefighters; and

Whereas, Jim Elkthunder, Jr., of Fulton, Missouri, has attained considerable distinction as an esteemed member of the Central Callaway Fire Protection District which has selected him to be Firefighter of the Year, a distinct honor which will be publically celebrated at the organization's annual dinner to be held this year on March 22; and

Whereas, during his junior year in high school in 1981, Jim Elkthunder followed in his father's footsteps by joining the Central Callaway Fire Protection District as a firefighter; and

Whereas, Jim Elkthunder wanted to make firefighting his career, and soon after his high school graduation he joined the United States Air Force (USAF) with which he underwent four weeks of basic training and six weeks in the USAF Fire Protection Specialist technical school; and

Whereas, during his decade-long activities as an Air Force firefighter, Jim Elkthunder served at RAF Sculthorpe in the United Kingdom and at Plattsburgh Air Force Base in New York; held a variety of increasingly-responsible positions as a firefighter/engineer, station chief, assistant chief of operations, and lead engineer; advanced through the ranks to staff sergeant; and fulfilled the ancillary billets of on-the-job training coordinator, auto extrication technician, air and ground team search and rescue, and emergency medical technician; and

Whereas, Jim Elkthunder subsequently returned to Fulton, where he was associated with the Central Callaway Fire Protection District in an off-and-on relationship which became permanent eighteen months ago after he distinguished himself as a Firefighter I, a Firefighter II, and a certified Open Water Diver with the city of Fulton and a 911 Dispatcher and Jailer for Callaway County:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the well-deserved selection of Jim Elkthunder as Firefighter of the Year by the Central Callaway Fire Protection District and to convey to him this legislative body's heartiest commendation of his labors as a member of a three-generation firefighting family that includes his father and his daughter, and our best wishes for continued personal safety and professional success for many more years to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for firefighter Jim Elkthunder, Jr., of the Central Callaway Fire Protection District.

Offered by _____
 Representative Danie Moore
 District No. 20

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 828, adopted March 13, 2003.

 Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker