

## House Resolution No. 673

**Whereas**, it is with heavy hearts that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to acknowledge the significant achievements of a life gone by, that of Herman A. Johnson, who passed to his eternal reward on February 17, 2004; and

**Whereas**, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnson, Herman Johnson was born and raised in New York and received his Bachelor's degree from Cornell University before completing graduate studies in personnel and hospital administration at the University of Chicago; and

**Whereas**, Herman Johnson dutifully served his country with the famed Tuskegee Airmen during World War II, following which he distinguished himself as director of Howard University's teaching hospital in Washington, D.C.; and

**Whereas**, Herman Johnson experienced tremendous success in the roles he played as executive vice president and board member of the Gross-Robbins Realty Company, manager of the district offices of the Supreme Life Insurance Company in Ohio and Kansas City, lobbyist for the National Real Estate Board, vice president of James E. Scott Realty Company, owner of both the Herman Johnson Company and Lincoln Cemetery, member of the Missouri House of Representatives from 1968 to 1972, and secretary of the Kansas City Board of Election Commissioners, a position to which he was appointed by Missouri Governor Kit Bond; and

**Whereas**, a member of Kansas City's civic elite, Herman Johnson compiled an enviable list of service to such important organizations as the Civic Council of Greater Kansas City, and the Heart of America United Way, just to name a few; and

**Whereas**, the beloved husband of Dorothy Johnson, Herman Johnson was a champion of civil rights who strived to improve the lives of Kansas City's African-Americans as President of the Kansas City Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, of which he had been a member since the young age of thirteen; and

**Whereas**, Herman Johnson leaves behind to cherish his memory, his devoted wife, Dorothy Johnson; his daughter, Kara Kaye Townsend Johnson (Curtis) of Toledo, Ohio; his grandsons, Billy Dee Townsend (Angel) and DeMarquis Townsend; his two great-granddaughters; and his nephews and nieces; and

**Whereas**, the Honorable Sharon Sanders Brooks, Missouri State Representative of the 37th District, was honored to have played a small role in helping Mr. Johnson, her constituent, secure the rightful place in United States history for his father, Henry Johnson, a World War I hero who single-handedly fought off a German raiding party during the war and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in paying final tribute to Herman Johnson, a devoted husband, dedicated public servant, and remarkable individual of peace and kindness in this world who will be sadly missed by all those who had the distinct pleasure of knowing and loving him; 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 the widow of the late Herman A. Johnson, as an expression of our deepest sympathy.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Sharon Sanders Brooks

District No. 37

Representatives: Dan Bishop, #38; Marsha Campbell, #39; John Patrick Burnett, #40; Melba J. Curls, #41; Yvonne S. Wilson, #42; Craig C. Bland, #43; Jenée Lowe, #44; Cathy Jolly, #45; Kate Meiners, #46; and Vicki Walker, #50

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 673, adopted February 19, 2004.

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Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker