

By: Representative Snowden

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 16

1 A RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND MOURNING THE  
2 LOSS OF UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BRIGADIER GENERAL SAMUEL P.  
3 MITCHELL, JR., AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND  
4 FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

5 WHEREAS, it is written in Ecclesiastes 3:1 that "To  
6 everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under  
7 the Heaven," and as such, on January 5, 2018, the immaculate  
8 author and finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal  
9 presence of dearly beloved, United States Air Force Brigadier  
10 General Samuel P. Mitchell, Jr., to eternal rest, rendering great  
11 sorrow and loss to his family and friends; and

12 WHEREAS, born on August 10, 1938, in Portsmouth, New  
13 Hampshire, to Samuel P. Mitchell, Sr. and Blanche Pettigrew,  
14 General Mitchell attended military school from the sixth grade and  
15 graduated from Admiral Farragut Academy of Saint Petersburg,  
16 Florida, in June 1956; and

17 WHEREAS, General Mitchell earned his bachelor's degree in  
18 architectural engineering from the University of Florida, and was  
19 a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, where he held many



20 elected positions during his undergraduate years, and he further  
21 attended Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base,  
22 earned his master's degree in public administration from Auburn  
23 University, earned an additional master's degree in business  
24 administration from the University of Missouri in Kansas City,  
25 Missouri, and attended Air War College where he was rated as  
26 outstanding; and

27 WHEREAS, being a distinguished graduate of the Air Force  
28 Reserve Officers Training Program, General Mitchell received a  
29 regular commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force,  
30 commanded numerous aircraft, and served as a C-130 group deputy  
31 commander of operations, an A-10 wing deputy commander of  
32 resources, a C-130 wing vice commander and further served in a  
33 Headquarters United States Air Force staff position; and

34 WHEREAS, a command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours in  
35 various military aircraft, including 874 hours while flying 200  
36 combat missions in KC-135s over Vietnam, General Mitchell retired  
37 from the United States Air Force on July 17, 1996, after more than  
38 34 years of service to our nation; and

39 WHEREAS, General Mitchell was very active in the Reserve  
40 Officers Association (ROA), serving in every elected position in  
41 the Chapter and State Department organizations before being  
42 elected as National President in 1989, where he served until 1990,  
43 and remained active as a Past National President of ROA after his  
44 tour of duty was completed; and



45           WHEREAS, in civilian life, General Mitchell was a commercial  
46 pilot for Trans World Airlines for over 30 years, and after  
47 retirement, he served as a liaison officer assisting numerous  
48 young men and women as they sought entrance to military academies,  
49 finding that mentoring youth in this capacity was very fulfilling  
50 and it gave him confidence in the future of our country; and

51           WHEREAS, General Mitchell accomplished many feats throughout  
52 his life, being the recipient of many awards and decorations,  
53 including: the Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit;  
54 Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Air Medal  
55 with three oak leaf clusters; Air Force Commendation Medal with  
56 two oak leaf clusters; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with three  
57 oak leaf clusters; Air Force Organization Excellence Award; Combat  
58 Readiness Medal with three oak leaf clusters; National Defense  
59 Service Medal with a bronze service star; Armed Forces  
60 Expeditionary Medal; Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze  
61 service stars; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm; and  
62 the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; and

63           WHEREAS, though he has traversed the river of life to now  
64 stand upon golden heavenly shores, the legacy of General  
65 Mitchell's selfless service and allegiance to his family and the  
66 United States will forever be etched in the hearts and memories of  
67 his loving survivors: his wife, June Mitchell; two children,  
68 Samuel P. Mitchell III (Tonya) and Leland Mitchell (Michelle); and



69 four grandchildren, Samuel P. Mitchell IV, Tessa Mitchell, Gabriel  
70 Mitchell and Jakob Mitchell; and

71 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
72 recognize great Americans such as United States Air Force  
73 Brigadier General Samuel P. Mitchell, Jr., whose steadfast  
74 commitment to his family and unwavering dedication to this great  
75 nation has brought great honor to both his family and to the  
76 United States of America:

77 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
78 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
79 remember the gallant service and mourn the loss of United States  
80 Air Force Brigadier General Samuel P. Mitchell, Jr., and express  
81 deepest sympathy to his family and our sorrow on his passing.

82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
83 furnished to the family of United States Air Force Brigadier  
84 General Samuel P. Mitchell, Jr., and to the members of the Capitol  
85 Press Corps.

