

By: Senator(s) Boyd, Suber, Whaley, Sparks,
Branning, McCaughn

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 107

1 A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE SINCEREST SYMPATHY OF THE
2 MISSISSIPPI SENATE TO THE SURVIVING FAMILY OF LAFAYETTE COUNTY
3 JUSTICE COURT JUDGE JOHNNY WAYNE "JUDGE" MCLARTY, THE SECOND
4 LONGEST ELECTED JUSTICE COURT JUDGE IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI,
5 AND COMMENDING HIS SERVICE TO HIS COMMUNITY AND HIS STATE.

6 WHEREAS, it is with sadness that we note the passing of
7 Lafayette County Justice Court Judge Honorable Johnny Wayne
8 "Judge" McLarty, 73, on December 11, 2023; and

9 WHEREAS, Judge was born on May 28, 1950, to the late Clara
10 Mae and John Murry McLarty. A lifelong resident of Oxford, his
11 heart and soul belonged to his community; and

12 WHEREAS, a judge since 1979, he was the second longest
13 elected Justice Court Judge in the State of Mississippi; and

14 WHEREAS, Judge was an avid fan of Ole Miss sports and
15 longtime ticket taker, known as a legend in the Left Field by all
16 those he ushered in throughout the years; and

17 WHEREAS, although he loved his "Rebels," nothing brought him
18 greater fulfillment than supporting the Lafayette County School
19 District and their athletic programs. Heavily involved with the



20 school across the years, he held every role from coach, umpire and
21 videographer, and drove his own bus route for around 20 years; and

22 WHEREAS, he was a charter member of the Splinter Valley
23 Hunting Club, where he spent many days hunting and fishing. Judge
24 was a member of Taylor Baptist Church and the Mason Lodge #33 in
25 Oxford, where he held many cherished friendships with his fellow
26 masons; and

27 WHEREAS, Judge also spent time as a volunteer deputy with the
28 sheriff's department as a 911 dispatcher and worked as an EMT with
29 the Oxford-Lafayette County hospital. He had mastered what so
30 many longed for, which is to love your career so much that it does
31 not feel like work at all; and

32 WHEREAS, Judge was always early and constantly showed up for
33 his friends and family. A week in his shoes would include rounds
34 to various social outings and commitments. A schedule that would
35 exhaust most his age instead filled him with energy and vigor, as
36 Judge would hop from the Beacon to Handy Andy, Sky Mart,
37 Grillhouse or Taylor Grocery if it were a Sunday. He was founder
38 of the Thursday Lunch Crew, a merry band of judges and attorneys
39 that would gather together at the Beacon; and

40 WHEREAS, Judge was the pillar of so many social circles, both
41 professional and personal, but was most importantly the pillar of
42 his family. He was preceded in death by his wife, Debbie Tatum
43 McLarty and sister, Jeanette Wells. He is survived by his
44 daughter, Deanna McLarty Massey (Bruce); son, Chad McLarty



45 (April); brothers-in-law, Dewey Wells and Jimmy Tatum;
46 grandchildren, Austin McLarty, Lee Murray McLarty, Alexis McLarty,
47 Taylor Jackson, Bailey Jackson, Rex Massey and Smith Massey;
48 great-grandchildren, Myles McLarty and May Ann McLarty, as well as
49 his Justice Court family; and

50 WHEREAS, Judge McLarty lectured fellow attorneys on ethics,
51 integrity, civility, courtesy and adherence to the Golden Rule.
52 His life honored both The Mississippi Bar and this great state
53 that he loved and served:

54 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
55 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby extend the sincerest sympathy of
56 the Mississippi Senate to the surviving family of Lafayette County
57 Justice Court Judge Johnny Wayne "Judge" McLarty, the second
58 longest elected Justice Court Judge in the State of Mississippi,
59 and commend his service to his community and his State.

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
61 the surviving family of Johnny Wayne "Judge" McLarty, forwarded to
62 the Mississippi Bar, and be made available to the Capitol Press
63 Corps.

