

By: Senator(s) Tate, Barnett, Barrett, Berry, Blackmon, Blackwell, Blount, Boyd, Branning, Brumfield, Bryan, Butler, Carter, Chassaniol, Chism, DeBar, DeLano, England, Fillingane, Frazier, Harkins, Hickman, Hill, Hopson, Horhn, Jackson, Johnson, Jordan, Kirby, Ladner, McCaughn, McLendon, McMahan, Michel, Norwood, Parker, Parks, Polk, Rhodes, Robinson, Seymour, Simmons (12th), Simmons (13th), Sparks, Suber, Thomas, Thompson, Turner-Ford, Whaley, Wiggins, Williams, Younger

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 95

1 A RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE LEGACY OF WWII, D-DAY+3 NORMANDY
2 VETERAN KT ROBBINS OF OLIVE BRANCH, MISSISSIPPI, AND THANKING HIM
3 FOR HIS SERVICE.

4 WHEREAS, it is with great respect that we remember the
5 military service of KT Robbins of Olive Branch, Mississippi, who
6 landed with his amphibious force on Utah Beach in Normandy,
7 France, on June 9, 1944, three days after D-Day in World War II;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, KT Robbins was born on July 4, 1921, in Union
10 County, Mississippi, where he grew up working the farm with his
11 parents. He left the farm and high school in 1939 to voluntarily
12 join the U.S. Army. He was in the 26th Infantry, 21st Division.
13 He entered the Army as Infantry, and completed his basic training
14 at Fort Benning, Georgia. KT was later assigned to lead a Bakery
15 Division, where he moved between France, Iceland, England and
16 Germany, serving under Patton's 3rd Army during WWII; and



17 WHEREAS, the following describes his Normandy and post-war
18 service: KT landed on D-Day+3 in Normandy, entering through Utah
19 Beach. He waited onboard the ship for his turn, as he watched his
20 fellow soldiers storm the beaches of Normandy ahead of him. There
21 were 800 ships waiting off the Normandy shore. He talks about
22 hearing guns and seeing the large explosions from the fighting on
23 the beach. As his company drove their trucks of equipment off the
24 ship, onto the beach at Normandy, the ocean water came into their
25 trucks. The beach was a terrible sight from the battle just
26 fought. His company advanced about 20 miles inland and spent the
27 night, sleeping on the ground under trees. Here they joined
28 Patton's 3rd Army; and

29 WHEREAS, while stationed in Metz, France, he met a young
30 French girl and fell in love. Sadly, their time together was
31 short, and the Army soon moved him quickly to other locations,
32 then returned him to the USA in 1945. Without today's ability to
33 easily connect through technology, the couple heartbreakingly lost
34 touch for 75 years; and

35 WHEREAS, upon returning to America, he met and married his
36 love, Lillian, and they started Robbins Hardware Store, where he
37 and Lillian worked side by side for 35 years. KT and Lillian
38 moved to Olive Branch in 1970 where they built their house. Then
39 he was instrumental in securing the land and the building of
40 Longview Baptist Church, where he still faithfully attends; and



41 WHEREAS, KT always wished he had completed high school, so 75
42 years later, at the age of 96 he got his wish. He was on schedule
43 to graduate from Hurricane High School in Pontotoc County in 1942,
44 but joined the war effort instead. Then he later earned his high
45 school degree from DeSoto County schools in 2017; and

46 WHEREAS, KT and Lillian were married for 70 years before God
47 called her home. Several years after the death of Lillian, KT
48 became involved with a veteran's organization called Forever Young
49 Veterans. This nonprofit organization, among other things,
50 returns veterans to the destinations where they served, allowing
51 them to see that their service did make a difference and to help
52 to heal many wounds for these veterans; and

53 WHEREAS, in 2019, Forever Young returned KT and 14 other WWII
54 Veterans to Normandy for the 75th anniversary of D-Day. There, he
55 saw the beautiful country France has become, replacing his
56 memories of a war-torn country full of death and tragedy. It was
57 on this trip that, thanks to Forever Young Veterans and French TV
58 reporter, Agnes Vahramian, he was reunited with his first love
59 from all those years ago; and

60 WHEREAS, KT continues to live in Olive Branch in the home
61 that he and Lillian built. Today, at 102 years of age, KT
62 continues to serve his God, his church, his community and
63 neighbors and his country. He serves as a great example to all
64 who know him; and



65 WHEREAS, his legacy is a strong and free America, and for his
66 WWII service as part of the "Greatest Generation" and a lifetime
67 of selfless contributions, a grateful state thanks him:

68 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
69 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby remember the legacy of WWII,
70 D-Day+3 Normandy Veteran KT Robbins of Olive Branch, Mississippi,
71 and thank him for his service and extend to KT and his family the
72 best wishes of the Senate for future happiness.

73 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
74 KT Robbins and his family, forwarded to Forever Young Veterans and
75 be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

