

By: Senators J. Payton, J. Boyd, Irvin, D. Sullivan

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO HONOR THE LIVES AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. JOSEPH
STEVE BRYANT AND HIS WIFE, MRS. SHARON GAYE COLLATT
BRYANT.

Subtitle

TO HONOR THE LIVES AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF
DR. JOSEPH STEVE BRYANT AND HIS WIFE,
MRS. SHARON GAYE COLLATT BRYANT.

WHEREAS, the Batesville community is mourning the unexpected passing of prominent businessman Dr. Joseph Steve Bryant, who went by Steve, and his wife, Sharon Gaye Collatt Bryant, on May 12, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Steve Bryant owned multiple pharmacies throughout the state, including his hometown pharmacy, Bryant's Pharmacy & Health Care Center which he owned for nearly forty (40) years; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his pharmacies and home healthcare businesses, Dr. Steve Bryant strived to improve patient care through his work with community hospitals and by serving as a member of the Board of Directors for White River Health Systems Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Steve Bryant:

- (1) Enjoyed a successful career as a pharmacist;
- (2) Served on the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy;
- (3) Received the APA Pharmacist of the Year award in 2007;
- (4) Received the UAMS College of Pharmacy Dean's award; and



(5) Most recently, was posthumously awarded the Bowl of Hygeia by his colleagues at the Arkansas Pharmacists Association, recognizing him as a pharmacist who possessed an outstanding record of civic leadership in his community; and

WHEREAS, the Bryants earned their respective bachelor's degrees from Arkansas State University:

(1) Dr. Steve Bryant with a degree in business with a minor in pre-pharmacy; and

(2) Sharon Gaye Collatt Bryant with a degree in mathematics and a minor in English; and

WHEREAS, prior to graduating pharmacy school in 1975, Dr. Steve Bryant lettered as a defensive end at Arkansas State University and was part of the 1970 squad that went undefeated with an 11-0 record, including a 28-1 victory over Central Missouri in the Pecan Bowl, on its way to the small college division national championship; and

WHEREAS, the Bryants were die hard Red Wolves fans and devoted supporters and ambassadors for Arkansas State University; and

WHEREAS, the Bryants endowed the Steve and Sharon Pre-Med Scholarship starting in 2017, further cementing their support and admiration for Arkansas State University; and

WHEREAS, the Bryants were longtime season-ticket holders and generous donors to Arkansas State University athletics; and

WHEREAS, the head football coach's suite was named in honor of the Bryant family and the couple's names are attached to one (1) of the current Arkansas State University football lockers; and

WHEREAS, the Bryants were married in 1973 and had two daughters, Mallory Burton and Monica Bryant; and

WHEREAS, Sharon Gaye Collatt Bryant's children and grandchildren meant

the world to her and she would regularly travel to spend time with them; and

WHEREAS, the Bryants were highly respected members of the Batesville community and cherished members of the Arkansas State University family; and

WHEREAS, the Bryants were generous with their time and expertise and are leaving a legacy of devotion to their community,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate express sincere condolences to the family of Dr. Steve Bryant and Sharon Gaye Collatt Bryant and commend their contributions to the State of Arkansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be provided to the family of Dr. Steve Bryant and Sharon Gaye Collatt by the Secretary of the Senate.