



State of Tennessee

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 42

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Jay Wright, Ruben Odle, and W.J. Shaw for their meritorious service to this country.

WHEREAS, our Nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the "Volunteer State" is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Jay Wright, Ruben Odle, and W. J. Shaw are three such individuals, each of whom, in military service during World War II, resolutely attended to the duties placed before him with an unflagging commitment to duty and honor; and

WHEREAS, Jay Wright, of Collinwood, was inducted into the United States Army on December 15, 1943, and saw action at Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe before his discharge on March 13, 1946; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his service and sacrifice, Mr. Wright was awarded the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with three Bronze Stars, the Good Conduct Ribbon, the World War II Victory Medal, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge. He is also the recipient of a Purple Heart, given in recognition of his being wounded during the Belgium Breakthrough of December 26, 1944; and

WHEREAS, Jay Wright is currently retired from the Hassell and Hughes Lumber Company; and

WHEREAS, Ruben Odle, of Collinwood, was inducted into the United States Army in March of 1941 and served as an Anti-aircraft Gunner, seeing action in Normandy, Rhineland, Sicily, Rome, Arno, and Northern France before his discharge on June 28, 1945; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his service and sacrifice, Mr. Odle was awarded the Good Conduct Medal and the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with five Bronze Stars, as well as the Purple Heart, which was given in recognition of his being wounded in action in France in December of 1944; and

WHEREAS, W. J. Shaw, of Waynesboro, volunteered to serve in the United States Army on July 11, 1944, and he served on the front lines in Germany as a proud member of the 94th Division of the 3rd Army under General Patton before he received his discharge in July of 1945; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his service and sacrifice, Mr. Shaw earned a Battle Ribbon and the Purple Heart for his actions during the Battle of the Bulge, during which he was wounded; and

WHEREAS, these three intrepid men served with courage and gallantry and deserve proper recognition for their heroism and their commitment to duty; and

WHEREAS, Jay Wright, Ruben Odle, and W. J. Shaw performed their duties with the utmost skill, dedication, and professionalism, and their service can only be categorized as outstanding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Jay Wright, Ruben Odle, and W. J. Shaw for their meritorious service during World War II and offer our thanks for a difficult job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

ADOPTED: May 11, 2011



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE