

First Extraordinary Session, 2008

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARTER AND SENATORS ADLEY, ALARIO, AMEDEE, BROOME, CASSIDY, CHAISSON, CHEEK, CRAVINS, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY, DUPLESSIS, DUPRE, ERDEY, B. GAUTREAUX, N. GAUTREAUX, GRAY, HEBERT, HEITMEIER, JACKSON, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARIONNEAUX, MARTINY, MCPHERSON, MICHOT, MORRISH, MOUNT, MURRAY, NEVERS, QUINN, RISER, SCALISE, SHAW, SHEPHERD, JOHN SMITH, THOMPSON, AND WALSWORTH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Gustave Anthony "Gus" Piazza, Sr., of Baton Rouge.

WHEREAS, it was with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the legislature learned of the death of Gus Piazza on Wednesday, November 14, 2007, at the age of fifty-five; and

WHEREAS, a native of New Orleans and a longtime resident of Baton Rouge, Mr. Piazza was a retired restaurateur who owned two very popular restaurants, Phil's Oyster Bar and Gus' Restaurant; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Piazza had a passionate love for LSU sports and bled purple and gold, and in the 1970s, while he was in college, he served as a manager for the LSU football team; and

WHEREAS, at that time, Mr. Piazza managed an oyster bar attached to Phil Tuminello's seafood market, and he purchased a stake in the restaurant a year after graduating from college; and

WHEREAS, for the next thirty-two years, Phil's Oyster Bar was a true Baton Rouge institution and a second home not only for Piazza's relatives but for the close-knit staff and his large extended family of longtime friends and faithful patrons; and

WHEREAS, Gus Piazza was a one-of-a-kind Louisiana treasure who touched the lives of countless people in unforgettable ways and could always be counted on to help others, not only with his famous ability to obtain sports tickets, but with his unbelievably kind and generous heart; and

WHEREAS, it is hard to imagine a world without Gus Piazza, and his family and friends hold dear their cherished memories of this extraordinary Louisianian; and

WHEREAS, Gus Piazza will continue to be respected and admired by those blessed to know and love him for the enduring joy he brought to their lives; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Piazza is survived by his beloved wife of thirty years, Jeannine Jordan Piazza; five children and one daughter-in-law, Anthony and Ann Piazza, Antoinette Piazza, Lillian Piazza, Jordan Piazza, and Caroline Piazza; his grandchildren, Macie Morgan and "Gus the 3rd", who were the light of his life; his father-in-law, Thomas Jordan; and two sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Pam and Murray Brasseux and Betsy and Gene Miller; he was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Lucille Piazza; his sister, Margaret Piazza Mader; and his mother-in-law, Jeannine Boutte Jordan; and

WHEREAS, though the death of Gus Piazza has left a tremendous void in his community and has created a genuine sense of sorrow in the many individuals who mourn the untimely loss of this wonderful man, his memory and spirit will remain forever alive in their minds and hearts.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana expresses sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Gustave Anthony "Gus" Piazza, Sr., of Baton Rouge and hereby extends posthumous honor and recognition to him for his incomparable legacy which is marked by the deep pride and happiness that he will forever bring to his family, friends, community, and state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Gus Piazza.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE