

State of Misconsin 1997 - 1998 LEGISLATURE

1997 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 83

November 18, 1997 – Introduced by Representatives TRAVIS, KUNICKI and JENSEN, cosponsored by Senators WINEKE, RISSER and ELLIS.

| 1 | Relating to: commemorating the life of James D. Selk. |
|----|---|
| 2 | Whereas, James D. Selk, a legendary Madison journalist, died on November 15, |
| 3 | 1997; and |
| 4 | Whereas, he was born in Marshfield, Wisconsin, in 1934; served his country in |
| 5 | the U.S. army; and graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1958; and |
| 6 | Whereas, in his days as chief political reporter for the Wisconsin State Journal, |
| 7 | he earned a reputation for his wit, iconoclasm and ability to scoop the competition; |
| 8 | and |
| 9 | Whereas, he evolved from beat reporter to pundit as editorial page writer for |
| 10 | the Wisconsin State Journal and as editor, publisher and columnist for Madison |
| 11 | Magazine; and |
| 12 | Whereas, thousands of loyal readers eagerly awaited his monthly column "Selk |
| 13 | at Large" to see hapless politicians pilloried, trendy ideas trashed and conventional |
| 14 | wisdom debunked; and |

1997 – 1998 Legislature

| 1 | Whereas, he was gifted with a style that made his writing irresistible even to |
|----|---|
| 2 | those few who would quarrel with his curmudgeonly musings; and |
| 3 | Whereas, in June 1997, always a lover of the printed word, he concluded his |
| 4 | final column thus: "So this is how it ends. Not with a bang, but with a little tiny dot |
| 5 | called a period."; now, therefore, be it |
| 6 | Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of the |
| 7 | Wisconsin legislature commemorate the life and mourn the death of James D. Selk |
| 8 | and extend their sympathy to his family, colleagues and many friends who will miss |
| 9 | him dearly; and, be it further |
| 10 | Resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide copies of this joint |
| 11 | resolution to his children; Jennifer, Mark and Michelle; and shall display a copy in |
| 12 | a fitting manner in the press room of the state capitol. |
| 19 | |

- 2 -

13

(END)