

1 State of Arkansas  
2 84th General Assembly  
3 Second Extraordinary Session, 2003  
4

Call Item ##  
  
HMR 1011

5 By: Representatives Agee, Thyer, Bond, Bradford, Childers, Cleveland, Dangeau, Edwards, Hathorn,  
6 Judy, Ledbetter, Mahony, Pate, Pritchard, Thomason  
7

8  
9 **HOUSE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**

10 IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF MR. E.J. BALL AND IN  
11 RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
12 STATE OF ARKANSAS AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.  
13

14 **Subtitle**

15 IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF MR. E.J. BALL  
16 AND IN RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY  
17 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS  
18 AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.  
19  
20

21 WHEREAS, Mr. E.J. Ball of Fayetteville, Arkansas, died on Tuesday,  
22 January 27, 2004, at the age of eighty-seven (87) years; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball was born on January 21, 1917, in Monette, Arkansas,  
25 to Benjamin Franklin and Vera Lamb Ball; and  
26

27 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball entered the United States Navy and became a Naval  
28 aviator in 1943, serving at the Navy Air Station in Tillamook, Oregon, and at  
29 the Naval Station in Great Lakes, Illinois, and retired from the Navy as a  
30 lieutenant junior grade; and  
31

32 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville,  
33 where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting in 1949, an L.L.B. with  
34 honors in 1950, and an M.B.A. in Business Administration in 1953; was active  
35 in many academic honor societies, including Beta Gamma Sigma, Omicron Delta  
36 Kappa, Phi Alpha Delta, and the Blue Key honorary men's leadership



1 fraternity; and was editor of the Law Review from 1950-1951; and

2  
3 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball served as an assistant professor at the University of  
4 Arkansas College of Business Administration and the School of Law for twenty-  
5 five (25) years; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball began his private law practice in Fayetteville,  
8 Arkansas in 1950, where he practiced with law partner Ken Mourton for thirty-  
9 four (34) years, growing the law firm into one of the oldest and most  
10 recognized in Northwest Arkansas; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball was the first counsel for the UA Men's Athletics  
13 Department; was best known for his representation of clients charged with  
14 federal tax crimes; was an early specialist on federal criminal tax  
15 violations and practiced years before ever losing a case to the federal  
16 government; and helped pioneer the law of variable annuities, like-kind  
17 exchanges, estate planning, and charitable foundations; and

18  
19 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball's contributions to the law were recognized by his  
20 appointment as a Special Justice to the Arkansas Supreme Court, being named  
21 one of the Best Lawyers in America by Woodward/White, Inc. of New York, and  
22 being chosen as Outstanding Lawyer in Arkansas; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball was involved in more than 125 reported appellate  
25 cases during his career; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball served as Chairman of the Fayetteville Chamber of  
28 Commerce; was a longtime Director of McIlroy Bank; served on the board of the  
29 University of Arkansas Alumni Association; was on the Arkansas Western Gas  
30 Company board of directors for twenty-one (21) years; created the nation's  
31 first commercial variable annuity life insurance company with the late Harold  
32 Dulan and Lewis Callison, where Mr. Ball served as corporate director,  
33 secretary-treasurer, and general counsel; founded the Razorback Foundation,  
34 which honored him with a distinguished service award in 1992; is a founding  
35 member of the UA National Development Council; founded the Law School  
36 Foundation; created the Wylie H. Davis Professorship and the Ethel Harper

1 Phillips Scholarship Fund; and is founding chairman of the Chancellor's  
2 Society; and

3

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball and his wife, Gladys, have generously supported the  
5 UA Law School, including the Robert A. Leflar Professorship and the E.J. Ball  
6 Professorship; were major contributors to the J. William Fulbright Peace  
7 Fountain; and, in 2002, Mr. and Mrs. Ball were inducted as Towers of Old  
8 Main; and

9

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball was the honored recipient at the Arkansas Law  
11 Review's 50th Anniversary in 1997; received the Alumni Citation of Merit;  
12 received a gift in his name from the Razorback Foundation of a teaching lab  
13 in the University Library bearing his name; and, in 2003, the School of Law  
14 hosted a reception and dinner to recognize his lifelong leadership and  
15 contributions to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville; and

16

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball was preceded in death by his parents, Benjamin  
18 Franklin and Vera Lamb Ball; and

19

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball is survived by his wife of fifty-eight (58) years,  
21 Gladys; son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth Ben and Betsy Ball; daughter Kathy  
22 L. Ball and Barry D. Herzog; daughter and son-in-law, Karen L. Ball and W.  
23 Tate Wolf; and three (3) grandchildren, Benjamin Slade Adams, Amanda Britt  
24 Adams, and Benjamin Henry Ball; and

25

26 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the Eighty-fourth General  
27 Assembly wishes to publicly recognize Mr. Ball's many contributions to the  
28 State of Arkansas and his local community,

29

30 NOW THEREFORE,

31 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-FOURTH GENERAL  
32 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

33

34 THAT the House recognizes E.J. Ball's commitment, hard work,  
35 dedication, and years of service to the State of Arkansas and his local  
36 community, and commends him for his leadership.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the individual members of the House hereby express sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Ball, and upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy shall be provided to the family of Mr. Ball.