

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY SENATOR GATTI

A RESOLUTION

To commend and recognize retired Air Force Colonel Steve dePyssler on the celebration of his ninety-ninth birthday.

WHEREAS, Colonel Steve dePyssler was born July 21, 1919, and served thirty-eight years of active-duty service, earning every enlisted, warrant, and officer pay grade up to colonel; and

WHEREAS, he is the only known American to have served in four wars, including World War II, Korean, French Indochina, and Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Colonel dePyssler retired from the military in 1979 but has continued to serve the Ark-La-Tex area while volunteering his time at the base for thirty-three years, with two dozen of those years as the director of the Retiree Office; and

WHEREAS, he has worked tirelessly to help countless veterans, family members, and widows with numerous issues and worked with the state legislature to develop the Louisiana Veterans Honor Medal and other legislation; and

WHEREAS, Colonel dePyssler was instrumental in the development of the Northwest Louisiana War Veterans Home, the War Memorial at the Bossier City Civic Center, and the Purple Heart stamp; and

WHEREAS, he has hosted numerous luncheons and events to honor Medal of Honor recipients, prisoner of war and Purple Heart members, and veterans from all wars; and

WHEREAS, Colonel dePyssler is devoted to the Ark-La-Tex Military Officers Association of American Chapter Scholarship Fund and is the editor of two military and retiree newspapers for twenty thousand readers, and his reach into the community extends even further with numerous other projects; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depends, in great measure, upon people like Colonel Steve dePyssler; and

WHEREAS, upon the occasion of his ninety-ninth birthday and in recognition of his dynamic and continuous involvement with veterans of the United States, it is fitting to acknowledge the wonderfully productive life of Colonel Steve dePyssler and to wish him many happy returns.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and recognize Colonel Steve dePyssler upon the historic occasion of his ninety-ninth birthday, record for posterity the extraordinary life he has lived since his birth, express enduring gratitude for his outstanding accomplishments and the singular contributions he has made to his family, friends, community, and state, and extend to him every good wish for health and happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Colonel Steve dePyssler.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE