

# Resolution

ENROLLED SENATE  
RESOLUTION NO. 11

By: Anderson, Allen,  
Barrington, Bass, Bice,  
Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen,  
Brinkley, Brooks, Brown,  
Crain, Dahm, David, Fields,  
Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison,  
Griffin, Halligan, Holt,  
Jech, Jolley, Justice,  
Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei,  
Newberry, Paddack, Pittman,  
Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw,  
Shortey, Silk, Simpson,  
Smalley, Sparks,  
Standridge, Stanislawski,  
Sykes, Thompson, Treat,  
Wyrick and Yen

A Resolution honoring the life and career of long-time Oklahoma Conservation Commission Executive Director Mike Thralls; mourning his loss; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Mike Thralls was born on November 7, 1950, in Enid, Oklahoma, to Rex and Dona Rae Thralls. He attended Billings Public Schools, and after graduation, Mike earned a degree in animal science from Oklahoma State University. He married Donna Cinnamon of Garber, Oklahoma, in 1970 and had five children: sons Ray, Greg, and Derek and daughters Michele and Angela; and

WHEREAS, Mike placed God and his family at the center of his life and gladly served his community and his state. He embraced those values as a farmer and rancher. He participated in many organizations including the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association, the

Noble County Cattlemen's Association, the Oklahoma Farm Bureau, and the Noble County Community Board for Ag Stabilization and Conservation Service. Mike eventually became Oklahoma's Assistant Secretary of Agriculture and then Executive Director of the Oklahoma Conservation Commission, a position he held for 17 years; and

WHEREAS, Mike was a champion on behalf of Oklahoma agriculture. He encouraged farmers to voluntarily embrace conservation practices that would improve their land and water quality. Mike also emphasized partnerships at all levels to accomplish important goals in a fiscally conservative way; and

WHEREAS, Mike's public service also included serving ten years as a school board member at Billings Public Schools, as well as serving on the Board of Regents for Northern Oklahoma College from 1989 through 1991. He also was involved with his children through 4-H and FFA. He gladly served his Lord as a lifelong member of the Antelope Valley Church of the Brethren where Mike served as a deacon, board member, Sunday school teacher, and song leader; and

WHEREAS, Mike's love of Christ, family, and fellow citizens was reflected in his life of service which became his legacy; and

WHEREAS, Mike Thralls passed from this life on Tuesday, February 10, 2015, at the age of 64. Mike was preceded in death by his mother, Dona Rae, and his paternal and maternal grandparents. He is survived by his father, Rex, his wife, Donna, three sons and daughters-in-law, two daughters and sons-in-law, and nine grandchildren, along with many other family members, friends, and loved ones.

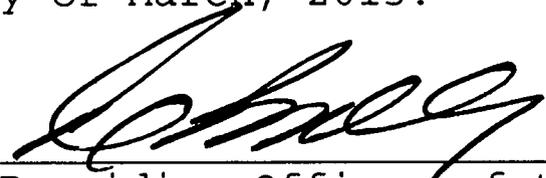
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends the life and service of Mike Thralls and hails his contributions to the State of Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate joins his family, friends, and former constituents in mourning the loss of Mike Thralls.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Mike Thralls' wife, Donna.

Adopted by the Senate the 3rd day of March, 2015.

  
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Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 4<sup>th</sup>  
day of March, 20 15, at 1:47 o'clock P. M.  
By: Ch. Benz