



Alaska State Legislature

1976

Source:

HCR 126

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 126

Paying tribute to the memory of Jack F. Scavenius.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS the members of the Alaska State Legislature have learned of the passing of one of Alaska's most colorful figures; and

WHEREAS Jack Scavenius, born of a noble Danish family March 5, 1904, in Copenhagen, emigrated to the United States at an early age, working first as a cowboy and laborer before coming to Alaska; and

WHEREAS before World War II he was one of Alaska's earliest bush pilots, well-known in the Nome and Cordova areas; he was the first pilot to fly fresh produce to Anchorage; during the Second World War, Jack Scavenius held the rank of Captain in the U.S. Army Air Corps, flying along the Aleutian chain, the only active warfront on American soil; and following that conflict, he was appointed director of the Alaska Division of Air Commerce, then organized and operated the McKinley Airlines, and was president of that firm from 1946 until 1950; he helped organize the Civil Air Patrol and was the Anchorage squadron's first commander; and

WHEREAS he then entered the University of Chicago School of Law; following graduation he returned to Anchorage to enter practice; he was prominent in that community in which he resided for 39 years, active in many civic organizations, including the Red Cross, Elks, Rotary and the American Legion; he also served on the Anchorage City Council in 1948 and 1949; elected to the 20th Territorial Legislature in 1950, he served one term in the House of Representatives as a Democrat from Anchorage; and

WHEREAS he maintained close ties to his native Denmark, returning there the last time for the 200th reunion of the Scavenius family; he was honored by that nation by appointment as honorary vice consul in 1957;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that in extending the condolences of its members to the devoted family and friends of Jack F. Scavenius pilot, businessman and attorney - it pauses to recognize his contribution to the development of this "Great Land", and to pay tribute to him as a true Alaska pioneer.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to his widow, Irma; to his brother, Jorgen Scavenius of Copenhagen; and to his sister, Alex Huxthausen, of Paris.