

# STATE OF ALASKA

## THE LEGISLATURE

1990

Source

HCR 32

Legislative  
Resolve No.

61



Requesting the State Geographic Board to name a mountain on the Kenai Peninsula after Bruce McGhan.

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

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan was born and raised in the state and spent many hours enjoying the beauty of Crescent Lake and the surrounding mountains on the Kenai Peninsula; and

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan was killed in an industrial accident at the age of 33 leaving behind family and friends who knew and loved him; and

WHEREAS four generations of Bruce McGhan's family have lived in the state, coming to the state in the 1940's and bringing the brass rail that is still installed in the Anchorage Fourth Avenue Theatre; and

WHEREAS members of Bruce McGhan's family installed the first transmitter station on Mount Susitna and worked on the statehood committee; and

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan's grandfather, Clifford D. McGhan, drove one of the first cars over the Alaska Highway and operated one of the early airlines between Alaska and Seattle; and

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan's historic family ties to the state were made stronger by his father, Terry McGhan, who installed the first public water and sewer systems used in Spenard; and

WHEREAS by being a conscientious and hard worker, Bruce McGhan accomplished much in his short life, beginning at the age of eight when, as the youngest paper boy for the Anchorage Daily News, he established one of the largest paper routes in Spenard and won dozens of awards for his efforts; and

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan always exhibited the Alaska trait of accepting any challenge, including when, at age 13, he learned to run his first piece of heavy equipment, fixed the bulldozer when it broke down, and built a runway at Mentasta Lodge on the Tok cutoff; and

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan contributed to the history of the state when he worked for a remote bush construction company to build several village schools; and

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan worked for the former state Department of Parks and helped to design and build the bear-proof garbage cans that are used today; and

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan exemplified the spirit of the state by simply being a good and honorable man and by taking pride in his home state, pride in every job he did, and pride in the family he left behind; and

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan's ashes are spread on a certain unnamed mountain, among nine other unnamed mountains, in the area he loved so much; and

WHEREAS it is appropriate that a geographic feature within the Crescent Lake area be named in his honor as a permanent testimony to his memory; and

WHEREAS there is strong public support for this action, as demonstrated by local political backing, resolutions, letters of support, and a petition bearing more than 1,200 signatures; and

WHEREAS the unnamed mountain is located on the north shore of Kenai Lake and south shore of Crescent Lake, at Section 13, Township 4 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian, 60 degrees 26'00"N, 149 degrees 33'30"W;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the State Geographic Board to name the above-described mountain in the Kenai Peninsula "Mount McGhan."

A COPY of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable David G. Hoffman, Chair of the State Geographic Board and to the members of Bruce McGhan's immediate family.