

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 78

Relative to the death of Jerry Tarkanian, former head basketball coach
of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 12, 2015

Mr. HELLER (for himself and Mr. REID) submitted the following resolution;
which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Relative to the death of Jerry Tarkanian, former head
basketball coach of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Whereas Jerry Tarkanian was born August 8, 1930, in Euclid, Ohio, graduated from Fresno State in 1955, and earned a Master's degree from the University of Redlands in 1956;

Whereas Jerry Tarkanian is survived by his wife, 4 children, and 11 grandchildren;

Whereas Jerry Tarkanian never had a losing season during the 19 years he coached the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) men's basketball team from 1973 to 1992, leading the "Runnin' Rebels" to a 509-105 record, 4 Final Four appearances, and the 1990 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Men's Basketball National Championship;

Whereas UNLV won the 1990 championship game by defeating the Duke University Blue Devils 103 to 73, the highest margin of victory in a championship game in NCAA Division I history;

Whereas Jerry Tarkanian unified the Las Vegas community, and became beloved by Nevadans and many more throughout the United States who watched as Tarkanian coached his teams to victory in the Thomas & Mack Center (also known as “the Shark Tank”), often while nervously chewing a towel at courtside;

Whereas over the course of a 38-year career that spanned high school, junior college, Division I of the NCAA, and the National Basketball Association, Jerry Tarkanian won 990 career games and received the 1983 United Press International Coach of the Year award;

Whereas Jerry Tarkanian’s immeasurable contributions to the game of basketball, which included his signature usage of the amoeba defense to wear down opposing teams, were recognized when he was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame in 2013; and

Whereas Jerry Tarkanian’s off-the-court contributions to Las Vegas and the entire State of Nevada are admired and deeply appreciated by all who call Nevada home: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) has heard with profound sorrow and deep
3 regret the announcement of the death of Jerry
4 Tarkanian; and

- 1 (2) requests the Secretary of the Senate to pre-
- 2 pare an official copy of this resolution for presen-
- 3 tation to the family of Jerry Tarkanian.

