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Armstead Will Be Missed by Pro-Life West Virginians

By now, most have heard about the passing of WV Supreme Court Justice Tim Armstead on Tuesday, August 26, at the age of 60.

In all his years serving as a Delegate in the State House, to being the first Republican House Speaker in 83 years, to his service on the West Virginia Supreme Court (some of those years as Chief Justice), Armstead never wavered from his pro-life convictions.

Founder of West Virginians for Life and current Acting Executive Director Wanda Franz, Ph.D., commented, "When we began working with Tim Armstead, he was the Minority Leader of the House of Delegates. It was a difficult time for the pro-life cause, but Armstead always remained calm and worked with respect for the dignity of all those who opposed him. Once he was Majority Leader, he was diligent and hard-working. We will miss him very much, but the significant body of pro-life legislation he helped produce is his legacy, and it speaks to the integrity of the man we miss."

Armstead's 100% pro-life voting record on 35 bills spanned from 2001 - 2018. That voting record included a pro-life license plate (2001). His last vote, before becoming a Justice in 2018, was to put the *No Constitutional Right to Abortion Amendment* on the November ballot that year. The pro-life license plate was never enacted. The Constitutional Amendment was voted on by the citizenry and became law. He had worked with several West Virginians for Life lobbyists over the years, those being Becky Romero, Karen Cross, Melissa Adkins, Brian Louk, and Vicky Covert.

Long-time West Virginians for Life Executive Director and later National Right to Life Political Director Karen Cross had this to say of Armstead, "When I met then Delegate Tim Armstead in the late 90s, I was impressed with his passion for protecting unborn babies and their mothers from the tragedy of abortion. An honorable man, Justice Armstead's faith guided him through all he did. His dedication to Life was unmatched. He was truly an honest man who could be trusted to do the right thing. Because of his leadership and dedication, many lives have been saved."

West Virginians for Life, the state affiliate of the National Right to Life Committee, is the state's largest pro-life group with 30 local pro-life chapters. West Virginians for Life works through education, legislation, and political action to protect those threatened by abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, and assisted suicide.

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