



A Proclamation by the Governor

WHEREAS, Wilbur Faiss was born in Centralia, IL on October 14, 1911 and his wife, Theresa Faiss was born in Clinton County, IL on Sept. 10, 1915. Theresa married Wilbur in 1933 and for 79 years thereafter were perhaps the longest successful marriage not only in Nevada but in the entire United States; and

WHEREAS, Wilbur and Theresa Faiss and their three sons, Robert, Donald, and Ronald, arrived in North Las Vegas, NV, in 1944. North Las Vegas then was an unincorporated city. Wilbur opened a small business and devoted a great deal of his time to his community, including service as a volunteer firefighter. Wilbur became one of the first workers at the Nevada Test Site in the 1950s. He later retired from work as a member of the Teamsters Union on the Las Vegas Strip; and

WHEREAS, Upon retirement at the age of 65, Wilbur answered the call of his constituents to become a Democratic candidate for the Nevada State Senate. He won that first effort for public office by one of the highest margins in the State. Wilbur served two distinguished terms in the Nevada Senate from Nov. 1976 to Nov. 1984, giving priority to the areas of working men and women, senior citizens, education, civil rights, and protection of the environment; and

WHEREAS, Theresa's achievements were recognized in 1996, when she was selected as Clark County's Pioneer Mother of the Year. Of Theresa it was written that she "has not won any public honors or held any office, but she held her family together through adversity and provided her sons a model of caring, support, hard work, sacrifice, commitment, integrity and compassion;" and

WHEREAS, Their sons have followed the example of their parents. Robert D. Faiss is a senior member of Nevada's largest law firm, Lionel Sawyer & Collins and a distinguished gaming law professor at the William S. Boyd School of Law. Prior to joining his firm, Robert served as Executive Assistant to Governor Grant Sawyer of Nevada and staff assistant to President Lyndon B. Johnson in the White House. The National Law Journal in 1997 named him one of "The 100 Most Influential Lawyers in America." Donald Faiss retired as an executive of Bally's Resort in Las Vegas, formerly the MGM Grand Hotel. Among his public contributions was service as a member of the Clark County School Board. Ronald Faiss retired as General Manager of the Horseshoe Hotel/Casino in Las Vegas, after 30 years of involvement in the spectacular growth of the Nevada gaming industry; and

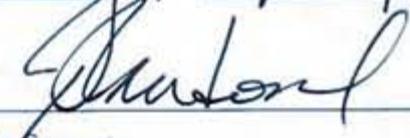
WHEREAS, Wilbur's proudest legacy is the Wilbur and Theresa Faiss Middle School in Las Vegas. In addressing the students on the eve of his 100th birthday, Wilbur inspired them by stating that "[t]he students who did their best to attend class usually were the best students. Those who were better students did better in life. Those who always told the truth, who obeyed the rules and who always were fair and considerate in dealing with others became better citizens. Those who worked hard in school, worked hard in their jobs and became more successful;" and

WHEREAS, Wilbur's arguably most important advice is to maintain a willingness to compromise, whether it is in life, politics or marriage;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRIAN SANDOVAL, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2013 as a day in honor of

Wilbur Faiss

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 23rd day of April, 2013.



Governor

By the Governor:


Secretary of State

By _____
Deputy

