

TOWN OF  
**WASHINGTON**  
LOUISIANA

ESTABLISHED 1720

P.O. Box 218 – 405 N. Washington St. Washington, LA 70589

337-826-3626 – Fax 337-826-3601

William Dwight Landreneau, Mayor

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS:** The Town of Washington recognizes John Kirt Soileau as a respected citizen and dedicated public servant and past Mayor.

**WHEREAS:** John Kirt Soileau was born in Grand Prairie, Louisiana in 1930, at the height of the Great Depression to parents who worked as sharecroppers. Kirt was drafted into the Army during the Korean War and graduated from the Army Medical School after which he served as a medical technician stationed in Stuttgart, Germany. After his service, Kirt earned a bachelor's degree in education from the University Southwest Louisiana (USL) then went on to earn a master's degree plus 30 hours in supervision and administration from Louisiana State University (LSU).

**WHEREAS:** John Kirt Soileau was an educator for over 20 years serving as a teacher and assistant principal at various schools in Opelousas and Krotz Springs. Kirt retired as Principal of Washington High School in 1979. For the next 45 years Kirt became an entrepreneur and civil servant. During this time, he owned and operated Kirt's Auto Supply in Washington, La., and was elected to various offices such as Justice of the Peace, Washington Town Council, and served as the Mayor of Washington for 28 years. During this time, he developed 3 subdivisions in the Washington area, managed several rental properties and served on various boards for various organizations. He enjoyed weekly suppers and card games with family and friends at The Camp. He also enjoyed being outdoors, hunting, fishing, and watching LSU Football games.

**WHEREAS:** John Kirt Soileau is survived by his wife of 58 years, Jeannie Lalonde Soileau; his stepson, Carl Latiolais; his three grandchildren, Ashleigh Mayfield, Matt Richard, Ryan Richard and two great-grandchildren, Kale Killingsworth and Janelle Richard.

**WHEREAS:** John Kirt Soileau is preceded in death by his parents, Martin Soileau and Leola Stears Soileau; his sisters, Betty Bellard, Ruth Soileau and Lou Santillo and his brothers, Louis Soileau, Avie Soileau and his stepdaughter, Valerie Latiolais.

**WHEREAS:** The citizens of Washington treasured its residents, and it is the privilege of the community to acknowledge John Kirt Soileau for his years of dedication to the betterment of the Town.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** William Dwight Landreneau, Mayor of the Town of Washington, Louisiana, this date November 3, 2024, does here proclaim John Kirt Soileau an honored citizen of the Town of Washington.



William Dwight Landreneau, Mayor