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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 347

Offered February 5, 2004

On the death of Victoria Wesson Craw.

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Patrons—Van Yahres; Senator: Deeds

WHEREAS, Victoria Wesson "Vicki" Craw, well-known and widely respected in the Charlottesville-Albemarle County community for her quiet philanthropy and support of numerous community initiatives, died on August 11, 2003; and

WHEREAS, the widow of Colonel Demas T. Craw, who gave his life for his country in Morocco during World War II and was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, Vicki Craw devoted her life for more than 50 years to the betterment of her community; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Craw established the first public housing foundation in Charlottesville, served as president of the League of Women Voters and worked to establish the Central Registrar's Office, and while on the board of the American Red Cross established Charlottesville's first blood-donor program; and

WHEREAS, long interested in government and politics, Vicki Craw generously supported the University of Virginia's Miller Center of Public Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Craw was cofounder and benefactor of the Charlottesville branch of Planned Parenthood, the originator of the lending library to benefit Recording for the Blind, a member of the Martha Jefferson Hospital board, and a cofounder of FOCUS, the women's resource center; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Craw led the effort to design and build Jackson Park, the Albemarle County Office Building grounds, and the Preston Avenue tulip garden and was instrumental in the preservation of what is now the Ivy Creek Natural Area in Albemarle County; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Craw's quiet activism and often anonymous generosity were recognized in 1979, when she was the recipient of the Paul Goodloe McIntire Citizenship Award, a nomination enthusiastically supported by Charlottesville's civic, cultural, and political leadership; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of an exceptional citizen of Charlottesville, Victoria Wesson Craw; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Victoria Wesson Craw as an expression of the respect in which her memory is held by the members of the General Assembly and the citizens of Charlottesville and Albemarle County.