

2004 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 393

On the death of Richard M. Simmons, Jr.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 20, 2004
Agreed to by the Senate, February 26, 2004

WHEREAS, Richard M. "Dick" Simmons, Jr., of Martinsville, the retired chairman and chief executive officer of American of Martinsville, died on August 20, 2003; and

WHEREAS, a native of Martinsville, Dick Simmons graduated from Martinsville High School, attended the Virginia Military Institute, and served in the United States Merchant Marines; and

WHEREAS, after World War II, Dick Simmons earned his bachelor's degree in commerce from the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Dick Simmons returned to Martinsville and joined the American Furniture Company in 1948, advancing to vice president of the company in 1952; and

WHEREAS, in 1961 Dick Simmons succeeded his father as president of the American Furniture Company, a position he held until his retirement in 1987; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement, Dick Simmons remained active in the Southern Furniture Manufacturing Association and served in leadership positions on numerous boards; and

WHEREAS, among the organizations benefiting from the wisdom and experience of Dick Simmons were the Memorial Hospital of Martinsville and Henry County, Piedmont Trust Bank, the Piedmont Group holding company, and the Carlisle School Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, throughout a life of significant achievement, Dick Simmons served his family, his company, and his community with dedication and commitment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with sadness the passing of an exceptional Virginian, Richard M. Simmons, Jr.; 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 Richard M. Simmons, Jr., as an expression of the respect in which his memory is held by the members of the General Assembly.

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