HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 470

Celebrating the life of Private First Class Lee Arthur Lewis, Jr.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 9, 2006 Agreed to by the Senate, March 10, 2006

WHEREAS, United States Army Private First Class Lee Arthur Lewis, Jr., a resident of Norfolk, was killed in action in Sadr City, Iraq, on March 18, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Lee Lewis attended Hampton Public Schools, graduated from Kecoughtan High School, and attended Virginia State University and Old Dominion University with aspirations of becoming a sports physical therapist; and

WHEREAS, a versatile and accomplished athlete, Lee Lewis participated in football, basketball, track, and soccer in school, as well as in the Foxhill Athletic Association, Phillips Athletic Association, and the East Hampton Athletic Association; he was also an assistant coach of soccer and basketball; and

WHEREAS, Lee Lewis sang in the choir at St. Joseph's Catholic Church and was an active volunteer, often preparing dinner at the church for area disabled veterans; and

WHEREAS, Private First Class Lewis served as a medic with the 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division based at Fort Stewart, Georgia, and was deployed to Iraq in January 2005; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2005, Private First Class Lewis was killed in the line of duty while on patrol with his unit in a dangerous and unstable neighborhood in Sadr City; and

WHEREAS, Private First Class Lewis was honored with the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and the Good Conduct Medal; he was buried at Arlington National Cemetery, the 125th service member killed in Operation Iraqi Freedom to be buried there; and

WHEREAS, Private First Class Lewis was devoted to his parents, his sister, and other family members and relatives, and especially to his beloved wife and young stepdaughter, whom he planned to adopt when he returned home; and

WHEREAS, Private First Class Lewis' death is a reminder of the perils faced daily by the thousands of young Americans who serve in our armed forces overseas and whose devotion to duty places them in harm's way; 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 a courageous and patriotic Virginian, Private First Class Lee Arthur Lewis, 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 Private First Class Lee Arthur Lewis, Jr., as an expression of the high regard in which his memory is held by the members of the General Assembly and the citizens of Virginia.