

2008 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11

Offered January 9, 2008

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Celebrating the life of Murice Grayson Balderson.

Patrons—Peace and Hargrove

WHEREAS, Murice Grayson Balderson of Urbanna and formerly of Mechanicsville, a respected citizen and outstanding educator for more than 30 years, died on May 25, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the son of Ruby Brann Balderson and the late Murice Gassaway Balderson of Warsaw, Grayson Balderson earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural education from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and was a member of the Corps of Cadets, graduating as a second lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, Grayson Balderson served his country for 10 years in the United States Army Reserves, becoming a company commander and attaining the rank of captain; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from the School of Banking at the University of Virginia, Grayson Balderson continued his education by earning a master of education degree; and

WHEREAS, Grayson Balderson worked at Northern Neck State Bank in Warsaw as an assistant cashier before settling into a dedicated career as a teacher with the Hanover County Public Schools, where he taught for more than 30 years until his retirement in 1997; and

WHEREAS, an exceptional and dedicated teacher, Grayson Balderson was named Teacher of the Year at Stonewall Jackson Middle School in Mechanicsville; and

WHEREAS, committed to quality education for all Virginia's young people, Grayson Balderson served as superintendent of Junior Farm Crops at the State Fair of Virginia and as president of both the Virginia Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association and the American Vocational Association; and

WHEREAS, always ready to help his fellow citizens in need, Grayson Balderson was a committed member of the Ruritan on the national and district levels and an outstanding local leader in the Hanover Ruritan Club for more than 25 years with 21 years perfect attendance; he served three terms as local vice president and two as president and also served terms as Chesapeake District lieutenant governor in 2002 and governor in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Grayson Balderson believed in actively participating in his community, and over the years, he selflessly gave his time and immense talents to many organizations, including the Hanover Youth Baseball League, the Hanover Education Association, and the Warsaw Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Grayson Balderson was a faithful member of Walnut Grove Baptist Church and active in the church's many missions in the Mechanicsville community; and

WHEREAS, Grayson Balderson will be fondly remembered and will be greatly missed by his devoted wife Patricia; his sons Ronald Grayson and David Patrick, daughter Karen Leigh, and their families, especially five wonderful grandchildren, Billy, Melissa, Joey, Kelly, and Molly; and his many other loving relatives and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly note with great sadness the passing of a fine teacher and outstanding Virginian, Murice Grayson Balderson; 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 Murice Grayson Balderson as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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