

2008 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 544

Offered February 29, 2008

Celebrating the life of Special Operator Chief Petty Officer (SEAL) Nathan Hall Hardy.

Patron—Suit

WHEREAS, Special Operator Chief Petty Officer (SEAL) Nathan Hall Hardy, United States Navy, died February 4, 2008, as a result of enemy action while conducting combat operations in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hardy was assigned to a Naval Special Warfare Development Group in Virginia Beach at the time of his deployment in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hardy carried on a Naval legacy from his grandfathers; his maternal grandfather served on PT-109 with John F. Kennedy and his paternal grandfather served as a combat surgeon with the Fourth Marine Division in the Pacific Theater; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hardy enlisted in the Navy in 1997 and in January 1998 he reported for Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL Training at the Naval Special Warfare Center in Coronado, California, graduating with Class 221 in May 1998; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hardy spent his entire career with East Coast-based SEAL teams, and he served in Afghanistan and Kosovo before going to Iraq; he was killed during his fourth deployment to Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hardy was from a select group of SEALs who believe in service as crusaders of the republic and believe that freedom is the gold of this nation that is worth fighting for; and

WHEREAS, during his service, Chief Hardy received many awards and decorations including the Bronze Star, two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, three Good Conduct Medals, two National Defense Medals, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, three Sea Service Deployment Awards, the NATO Medal, Expert Rifle Medal, and Sharpshooter Pistol Medal; and

WHEREAS, known for his dedication to family and duty, his competitiveness, and his fierce loyalty to friends, Chief Hardy will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his loving wife, Mindy; his parents, Stephen and Donna, and his brother, Benjamin; and numerous other family members, friends, and teammates; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hardy's death is a reminder of the perils faced daily by the thousands of 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 American, Special Operator Chief Petty Officer (SEAL) Nathan Hall Hardy; 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 Special Operator Chief Petty Officer (SEAL) Nathan Hall Hardy, United States Navy, as an expression of the high regard in which his memory is held by the members of the General Assembly and the citizens of the Commonwealth.

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