

2008 SESSION

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089041308

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 169

Offered February 6, 2008

Celebrating the life of G. Bill Backus.

Patron—Quayle

WHEREAS, G. Bill Backus of Chesapeake, a respected citizen and dedicated community supporter, died on January 26, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the son of Vay May Britton and the late Homer C. Backus, Bill Backus attended Churchland High School and Frederick Military Academy, both in Portsmouth; and

WHEREAS, an electrical inspector for the City of Portsmouth for 12 years, Bill Backus was also a proficient pilot, and he founded Backus Aerial Photography 40 years ago, a business he loved and actively managed along with his son, Gary; and

WHEREAS, a strong believer in public service, Bill Backus was a member of the United States Navy Reserve for 21 years, serving active duty aboard a destroyer and reserve duty as an air crewman, and a member of the Portsmouth Police Department Auxiliary Unit for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Bill Backus was a 32nd Degree Mason in the Khedive Shrine Air Wing, serving as commander, and in the Khedive Shrine Antique Auto Unit; he was a member of Elks Club No. 82 and was active in several flying organizations, including as governor of the Quiet Birdmen, colonel in the Commemorative Air Force, and member of the International Swift Association; and

WHEREAS, a devoted and caring person, Bill Backus will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his beloved wife of 37 years, Betty; his two daughters, Sandy and Lynn; his son, Gary; his six grandchildren; and countless other family members and dear friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of G. Bill Backus, a fine Virginian; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of G. Bill Backus as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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