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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 217

Offered February 22, 2008

*Celebrating the life of James Edward Burton III.*

Patrons—Hurt and Newman; Delegates: Byron and Merricks

WHEREAS, James Edward Burton III of Altavista, a respected citizen and community leader, died on September 15, 2007; and

WHEREAS, born in Durham, North Carolina, to the late James Edward Burton, Jr., and Annie Hodnett Burton, James Burton moved to Altavista with his family in 1935; and

WHEREAS, always active with the Boy Scouts of America, James Burton was one of the area's first Eagle Scouts, and he later became a scoutmaster and a member of several committees for the regional Boy Scout district; and

WHEREAS, a 1952 graduate of Virginia Military Institute, James Burton served in the United States Army from 1953 to 1958 and was discharged with the rank of captain; and

WHEREAS, James Burton was one of the founders of the Altavista Loan Company and he served as the company's president for 48 years; and

WHEREAS, eager to play an active role in the growth and development of his community, James Burton served as a town councilman from 1962 to 1968 and then as mayor of Altavista from 1968 to 1980; he was known as a well-balanced leader who knew the value of collaboration and worked effectively with other members of the town government, local businesses, and citizens; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his work in local government, James Burton also dedicated his time and energy to community organizations, serving as a member of the Altavista Rotary Club and the Altavista Chamber of Commerce and on the board of directors for the Altavista Area YMCA, and in 1980, he was named the town's Outstanding Citizen of the Year; and

WHEREAS, James Burton will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his beloved wife, Margaret; his four children, James, Douglas, Stephanie, and Daniel, and their spouses; his 12 grandchildren; and many 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 James Edward Burton III, an outstanding community leader and 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 James Edward Burton III as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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