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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 855

Offered February 6, 2009

Celebrating the life of Colonel Gerald Kenneth Johnson.

Patrons—Englin, Brink, Ebbin, Eisenberg and Herring; Senator: Ticer

WHEREAS, Colonel Gerald Kenneth Johnson of Alexandria, a respected citizen and career military officer, died on August 30, 2008; and

WHEREAS, born in 1943, Gerald "Gerri" Kenneth Johnson was the devoted son of the late Robert Johnson and Hazel Armstead Johnson Wallace and his stepfather, Harry Wallace, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Johnson received an undergraduate degree *magna cum laude* from Rutgers University in New Jersey; earned a graduate degree from the Command and General Staff College in Leavenworth, Kansas; and attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, a distinguished commander and soldier, Colonel Johnson bravely served his country from the period of the Vietnam conflict to the end of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and his last military assignment was as the TRADOC System Manager of the Combat Service Support Control System at Fort Lee; and

WHEREAS, following his military career, Colonel Johnson worked in the private sector as a liaison and military expert and was the current director of governmental relations for AM General; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Johnson was a loyal member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter, where he previously served as chaplain, and was a longtime member and former president of the Crystal City-Pentagon Rotary Club; and

WHEREAS, "a loving giant of a man who never met a person he did not like," Colonel Johnson was greatly admired as a published author, a patent holder, and a Renaissance man; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Johnson will be fondly remembered for his deep faith, his generosity, and his devotion to his family and will be greatly missed by his wife, C. Elisabeth Palmer Johnson; his son, Gerald K. Johnson, Jr., and wife Ivy; his daughter, Stephanie A. Johnson; his granddaughter, Io; and numerous other loving family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of a fine Virginian, Colonel Gerald Kenneth Johnson; 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 Colonel Gerald Kenneth Johnson as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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