

2009 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 887

Offered February 11, 2009

Celebrating the life of Eric J. Olsen.

Patron—Marsden

WHEREAS, Eric J. Olsen of Gainesville, a respected citizen and beloved teacher and head coach at Freedom High School, died on January 25, 2009; and

WHEREAS, a native of Laurel, Maryland, Eric Olsen was born on August 20, 1970, the son of John and Ann Gail McCormack Olsen; and

WHEREAS, Eric Olsen earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 1987, graduated from the John Carroll School in Bel Air, Maryland, in 1988, and received a bachelor's degree in both history and education from the University of Maryland in 1993; and

WHEREAS, on April 17, 1993, Eric Olsen married Ashley Saddington, and the devoted couple have two children, Claire and William; and

WHEREAS, Eric Olsen began his career in education with Loudoun County Public Schools in 2001 as a teacher at Farmwell Station Middle School; he then taught at Park View High School, where he also coached cross country and lacrosse; and

WHEREAS, Eric Olsen transferred to Freedom High School in 2005 as a charter staff member and served as an Advanced Placement World History teacher, lead mentor, head cross country coach, and head boys' lacrosse coach; and

WHEREAS, during his time at Freedom High School, Eric Olsen taught approximately 150 students and coached 140 student-athletes each year, positively impacting over 900 students and 50 percent of the school's student population; and

WHEREAS, Eric Olsen was an outstanding teacher and role model who inspired young people to be better students and citizens, and always gave his time, energy, and resources far beyond what was required; and

WHEREAS, Eric Olsen will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his loving family, many friends and admirers, and his colleagues and students in Loudoun County; 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 dedicated teacher and fine Virginian, Eric J. Olsen; 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 Eric J. Olsen as an expression of the high regard in which his memory is held by the members of the General Assembly and the citizens of Virginia.

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