

2009 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 464

Celebrating the life of Melvin Ross Simpson.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 25, 2009
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 27, 2009

WHEREAS, Melvin Ross Simpson, a beloved family physician and longtime grass roots and civil rights activist, died on February 9, 2009; and

WHEREAS, a native of Norfolk, Melvin Simpson was born on July 26, 1925, to Paul and Zenobia Simpson; and

WHEREAS, Melvin Simpson proudly served his country during both World War II and the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, after receiving a bachelor's degree from Virginia State College (now University), Melvin Simpson received his medical degree from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a devoted and caring physician, Dr. Melvin Simpson began his family practice in Newport News in 1957 and served the community diligently for many years; and

WHEREAS, actively involved in his profession, Dr. Melvin Simpson was one of the founders of the Peninsula Association for Sickle Cell Anemia and was a charter member of the American Academy of Family Physicians; he also served as president of the Old Dominion Medical Society; and

WHEREAS, Melvin Simpson generously gave of his time and talents over the years as a member and former president of the Hampton Branch of the NAACP; as a member of the Citizens Boys and Girls Club of Hampton board, the City Charter Commission of Hampton, Senior Citizens Advisory Board of Hampton, American Cancer Society, and American Red Cross; and as a member of the board of visitors of Virginia State University; and

WHEREAS, Melvin Simpson also proudly mentored 12 young men from Hampton High School, Los Valientes (The Valients), in the late 1960s, was a member of the Beau Brummell Civic and Social Club, and served as an usher and on the board of trustees for Third Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Melvin Simpson received many awards and accolades during his life for his work, including the Brotherhood Citation from the National Conference of Christians and Jews; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Melvin Simpson will be sorely missed by his loving wife of 57 years, Ruth Jones Simpson; three daughters, Marlene, Rhonda, and Angela and their families; and his numerous friends and admirers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Melvin Simpson leaves behind a legacy of service to his profession, community, country, and family that others may emulate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of a dedicated physician and community volunteer, Melvin Ross Simpson; and, be it

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

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