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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 184

Offered January 22, 2010

Celebrating the life of E. Alvin Small.

Patrons—Cox, M.K., Dance, Ingram and Nixon; Senator: Martin

WHEREAS, E. Alvin Small of Colonial Heights, a respected citizen, community supporter, and businessman, died on May 28, 2009; and

WHEREAS, a native of Petersburg, Alvin Small was the son of Edward and Dora Small; he attended local public schools and settled in the Colonial Heights area in 1921; and

WHEREAS, since he could not enter the military due to a health problem, Alvin Small worked as a railway ticket agent during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Alvin Small worked at several funeral establishments in Richmond and started his own business, E. Alvin Small Funeral Home, in 1952, working with his brothers Herbert Small and Ralph Small; and

WHEREAS, a humble and soft-spoken person, Alvin Small worked behind the scenes, generously helping and mentoring others; and

WHEREAS, Alvin Small was especially proud of the teaching and advice he and his brothers provided over the years in the training of funeral professionals from across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, devoted to his community and the well-being of his neighbors, Alvin Small gave his time and expertise to many civic organizations, including as a president and life member of the Chamber of Commerce; a charter member of the Colonial Heights Optimist Club and governor of the Capital Virginia District of Optimist International; a member of Powhatan Starke Masonic Lodge No. 124 for 50 years, Appomattox Commandery Knights of Templar No. 6, and Royal Arch Chapter No. 7; a member of Acca Temple Shrine and president of Petersburg Shrine Club; a member of Alpha Chapter No. 1 Order of the Eastern Star; a 39-year member of the Petersburg Salvation Army Advisory Board; and a member of the Fort Lee Army Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, Alvin Small was a founding member of Colonial Christian Church, where he served as a trustee and was active in the church's many missions in the community; and

WHEREAS, a devoted family man and pillar of the community, Alvin Small was a loving husband to his wife Ruby Sheffield Small, who died September 16, 2009, and he will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his loving family, numerous friends and admirers, and the residents of Colonial Heights and Petersburg; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of an outstanding Virginian, E. Alvin Small; 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 E. Alvin Small as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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