

## 2010 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 308

Offered February 19, 2010

*Celebrating the life of Raymond Lewis Venator.*

Patrons—Janis and Bell, Robert B.; Senator: Houck

WHEREAS, Raymond Lewis Venator of Mineral, an admired citizen and outstanding insurance agent and community leader, died on February 4, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Raymond "Ray" Lewis Venator was born in Ottumwa, Iowa, the son of the late Russell F. Venator and Frances Wood Venator, and graduated from Ottumwa High School in 1957; and

WHEREAS, a career military officer, Ray Venator served his country as a proud member of the United States Marine Corps, retiring with the rank of major after 37 years of loyal service; and

WHEREAS, a hardworking and knowledgeable insurance broker, Ray Venator was the local State Farm agent for 30 years, and he knew most of his neighbors and their families; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to making his community a better place in which to live and work, Ray Venator was an active member of the Rotary Club for 30 years and served as the Governor for District 7610 in 1995 - 1996; and

WHEREAS, Ray Venator generously gave his time and expertise to many civic organizations, including as a member and treasurer of the Lake Anna Civic Association and as a longtime member of American Legion Post 176; and

WHEREAS, Ray Venator loved and respected nature and the outdoors and enjoyed roaming the woods and fields around his home in Mineral and watching the sun set on the water at the family beach house in Kill Devil Hills; and

WHEREAS, a "big man with a big heart," Ray Venator will be fondly remembered for his kindness, his integrity, and his devotion to his family and will be greatly missed by his beloved wife of 48 years, Cleta Venator; his son, Timothy Blaine Venator; his daughter, Lisa Ann Merchant and her husband, Sonny; his two grandchildren, Bethany Michelle and Caroline Marie Merchant; his brother, sister, and sister-in-law; and his numerous other loving relatives and good friends; now, therefore, be it

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

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