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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 268

Offered March 8, 2010

*Celebrating the life of Ralph H. Dean.*

Patrons—Obenshain; Delegate: Gilbert

WHEREAS, Ralph H. Dean, the beloved mayor of the Town of Luray for 28 years, died on June 5, 2009; and

WHEREAS, born on March 28, 1930, to Howard E. and Bertha Lee Miller Dean, Ralph Dean grew up on a small farm, where he enjoyed playing baseball and spending time outdoors; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Dean graduated from Stanley High School, where he played many sports and met his beloved wife of nearly 60 years, Billie; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, Ralph Dean proudly served his country in the United States Navy aboard the *USS Missouri*, and after his discharge, Ralph Dean took printing classes under the GI Bill; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Dean went to work for the *Page News and Courier* and stayed there for 37 years; he worked his way up from assistant press operator to sports editor to advertising manager before his retirement in 1992; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of service to his fellow citizens, Ralph Dean ran for and was elected to the Luray Town Council in 1974 and became mayor in 1980; he gladly served until his retirement in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Dean loved his community and was active in the Luray Lions Club, VFW Post 621, and Disabled American Veterans Chapter 14; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Dean was especially supportive of the area's youth; he often attended games at Luray High School and served as a Boy Scout leader for 27 years; and

WHEREAS, known for his straightforward manner and sense of humor, Ralph Dean worked for decades to ensure the well-being of those in Luray and leaves behind a legacy of service to his family and community; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Dean will be fondly remembered for his kind and generous nature and greatly missed by his loving wife, Billie; daughter, Dixie; grandson, Patrick; and the citizens of the Town of Luray; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly note with great sadness the loss of a beloved public servant, Ralph H. Dean; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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