SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 309

Celebrating the life of United States Army Corporal William Kyle Middleton.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 13, 2011 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 21, 2011

WHEREAS, United States Army Corporal William Kyle Middleton, a native Virginian, was killed in the line of duty on November 22, 2010, while valiantly serving his country in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, the son of Clarence Middleton and Marlene Blackburn, William "Kyle" Middleton grew up playing soccer until a knee injury sidelined him during his college years; an accomplished player, he traveled extensively, including to Europe, to play in tournaments; and

WHEREAS, an outgoing young man with many friends, Kyle Middleton graduated from L.C. Bird High School before attending Old Dominion University; and

WHEREAS, while at Old Dominion University, Kyle Middleton was actively involved in his fraternity and spent a year abroad at the University of Leicester in England, where he formed many friendships; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Old Dominion University, Kyle Middleton worked in the Norfolk area before deciding to join the United States Army in 2009 and serve his country; and

WHEREAS, Kyle Middleton was assigned to Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division based out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, a patriotic young man, Kyle Middleton was known and admired for his devotion to duty, commitment to his fellow soldiers, and compassion for the residents of Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Middleton had been stationed in Afghanistan for about six months before insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Middleton received numerous awards and decorations for his meritorious service including the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, NATO Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Air Assault Badge, and Combat Infantryman Badge; and

WHEREAS, a loving son and brother, Corporal Middleton will be greatly missed by his father, Clarence; mother, Marlene; brother, Zach; and his many good friends and faithful comrades; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Middleton's death is a reminder of the hazards faced daily by the thousands of Americans who serve in our armed forces overseas and whose devotion to duty places them in harm's way; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of a courageous and patriotic Virginian, United States Army Corporal William Kyle Middleton; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of United States Army Corporal William Kyle Middleton as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.