SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 342

Celebrating the life of James Riley Knight, Jr.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 20, 2011 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 28, 2011

WHEREAS, James Riley Knight, Jr., a beloved retired dentist and community leader from the Town of Warsaw, died on April 25, 2010; and

WHEREAS, a native of Mississippi, James Knight was born on December 8, 1931, to loving parents James Riley Knight, Sr., and Vera Nell Boone Knight; and

WHEREAS, a hardworking student, James Knight received a bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi, where he also met his beloved wife, Mary Lois Gilliam, whom he married on June 25, 1955; and

WHEREAS, James Knight completed his dental studies at the University of Tennessee School of Dentistry and then served as a commissioned dental officer with the United States Public Health Service at the Flandreau Indian School in South Dakota before relocating with his wife to Warsaw; and

WHEREAS, a respected professional, James Knight ran a successful dental practice for decades, where his patients remember his cheerful manner, kind words, and gentle skill; and

WHEREAS, James Knight was a well-known and beloved figure in the community who generously shared his time and talents with numerous organizations, including the Rotary Club, the Richmond County Republican Party, Meals on Wheels, and Camp Rainbow; and

WHEREAS, James Knight was also a proud member of the Sons of the American Revolution, Northern Neck Assembly, Masonic Order, and the Skidmore Hunt Club; and

WHEREAS, James Knight served the Commonwealth with great distinction as a member of the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries and on the Rappahannock Community College Board, where he labored diligently to protect the Commonwealth's great natural resources and ensure a quality education for local residents; and

WHEREAS, in retirement, James Knight pursued his love of gardening and became a master gardener, sharing his experience and expertise with others; and

WHEREAS, James Knight received many awards and accolades for his selfless devotion to the community, including the Liberty Bell Award from the Northern Neck Bar Association, and was named a Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary International; and

WHEREAS, a devoted member of Warsaw United Methodist Church, James Knight was a man of great faith who cherished his church and enjoyed serving others in the church community; and

WHEREAS, a man of great principles and integrity, James Knight leaves behind a legacy of service to his family, friends, community, and the Commonwealth that others may emulate; and

WHEREAS, a devoted family man, James Knight will be greatly missed by his loving wife of 55 years, Mary; children, Cary, Robert, and Kathleen, and their wonderful families; and his numerous other family members, friends, and admirers; 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 beloved retired dentist and community leader, James Riley Knight, Jr.; and, be it

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