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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 440

Offered February 7, 2011

Celebrating the life of François R. Haeringer.

Patrons—Saslaw, Howell, Barker, Blevins, Colgan, Deeds, Edwards, Hanger, Herring, Houck, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Marsh, Martin, McDougle, McEachin, McWaters, Miller, J.C., Miller, Y.B., Newman, Norment, Northam, Petersen, Puckett, Puller, Quayle, Reynolds, Ruff, Stanley, Stosch, Ticer, Vogel, Wampler, Watkins and Whipple; Delegates: Albo, Brink, Bulova, Comstock, Englin, Filler-Corn, Herring, Keam, Kory, LeMunyon, Plum, Rust, Sickles, Surovell and Watts

WHEREAS, François R. Haeringer of Great Falls, a renowned chef whose restaurant, L'Auberge Chez François, introduced Washington, D.C., metropolitan area residents and visitors to the culinary delights of the Alsace region of France, died on June 3, 2010; and

WHEREAS, François Haeringer was born on January 6, 1919, in Obernai, France, to the late Ernest and Cecil Haeringer and grew up eating the hearty foods of his homeland; and

WHEREAS, François Haeringer evidenced his love of cooking at an early age, working for local restaurants and apprenticing at the Plaza Athenee Hotel in Paris, where he further refined his talents; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, François Haeringer served in the French army and was eventually captured by Germans and sent to work as a prisoner-chef at the Four Seasons Hotel in Munich; and

WHEREAS, after the war, François Haeringer immigrated to the United States and settled in Washington, D.C., to work in restaurants with his uncle and brother; he also spent more than a year cooking at a hotel in Ketchikan, Alaska, before returning to the nation's capital in 1950; and

WHEREAS, François Haeringer worked at Three Musketeers on Connecticut Avenue before buying it in 1954 and renaming it Chez François; and

WHEREAS, François Haeringer ran the French restaurant with a firm hand and attention to detail while serving fish, steaks, patés, and roasts that provided his patrons with a taste of the rustic flavors of France; and

WHEREAS, François Haeringer moved his restaurant to the Virginia suburbs in 1976, creating an auberge, or country inn, that further enhanced the culinary experience and brought it favorable reviews and a steady clientele; and

WHEREAS, a popular destination, L'Auberge Chez François was named by *Washingtonian Magazine* readers as one of the region's best restaurants 25 years in a row; and

WHEREAS, over the years, François Haeringer brought his sons into the business while his wife kept the books; he continued to work in the restaurant until the time of his death; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, François Haeringer introduced countless patrons to the unique and satisfying flavors of his beloved France; and

WHEREAS, François Haeringer will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by wife of 62 years, Marie-Antoinette Clare; children, Jacques, Paul, and Robert, and their 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 distinguished resident of the Commonwealth, François R. Haeringer; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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