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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 215

Offered January 18, 2012

Celebrating the life of the Honorable A. Lee McGratty.

Patrons—Landes, Bell, Richard P. and Cline; Senator: Hanger

WHEREAS, the Honorable A. Lee McGratty, a highly esteemed judge who presided over Virginia's 25th Judicial District with great dedication and fairness for 12 years, died on April 27, 2011; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Holy Cross College and the University of Virginia School of Law, A. Lee McGratty proudly served his country in the United States Navy as the executive officer onboard the USS *Durant* as part of the United States Operation Deep Freeze in Antarctica; and

WHEREAS, A. Lee McGratty began his distinguished legal career in Charlottesville and shortly thereafter relocated to Waynesboro, where he eventually formed the law firm Ajemian and McGratty in 1975; and

WHEREAS, prior to his appointment as General District Judge for the 25th Judicial District, A. Lee McGratty served as a substitute judge in General District and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts and as the Commissioner in Chancery for Waynesboro, Augusta County, and Nelson County; and

WHEREAS, Judge McGratty possessed a sharp wit and formidable knowledge of the law that earned him the respect of his colleagues and admiration of those who worked with him in the courts system, while those who came before the bench could count on the fair dispensation of justice; and

WHEREAS, an engaged and productive citizen, Judge McGratty volunteered in many capacities in the local community, serving as the chair of the Waynesboro Planning Commission, president of the Waynesboro Lions Club, and board member of the Waynesboro Players; and

WHEREAS, a skilled woodworker, Judge McGratty enjoyed designing and building stage sets for local community theater; he also built miniature homes and furniture, which earned him and his late wife a feature in the *Nutshell News* magazine; and

WHEREAS, a man of great intelligence and integrity, Judge McGratty served his country, the Commonwealth, and the residents of the City of Staunton and Augusta County with wisdom and fairness; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his wife, Becky, A. Lee McGratty leaves behind to cherish his memory his daughter, Virginia, and her family; and numerous other family members, friends, and admirers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of a distinguished jurist, the Honorable A. Lee McGratty; 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 the Honorable A. Lee McGratty as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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