

2013 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 734

Celebrating the life of the Honorable John Harvey Tate, Jr.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 18, 2013
Agreed to by the Senate, January 24, 2013

WHEREAS, the Honorable John Harvey Tate, Jr., who faithfully served the residents of Smyth County and parts of Grayson and Tazewell Counties as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates from 1996 to 2001, died on December 11, 2012; and

WHEREAS, a native of Southwest Virginia, John Tate earned a bachelor's degree from The College of William and Mary and a law degree from Washington and Lee University before settling in Marion in Smyth County; and

WHEREAS, John Tate established a successful private practice in general law, providing outstanding and knowledgeable service to his clients and aiding numerous local organizations with his pro bono work for nearly half of a century; and

WHEREAS, John Tate also served Smyth County as its attorney from 1977 to 2011 and was involved in the local banking industry over the years as counsel and chair of the board of Southwest Virginia Bankshares; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of further service to the local community and the Commonwealth, John Tate ran for and was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates, providing a strong voice for the Fifth District during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, John Tate was a member of the Courts of Justice, Privileges and Elections, Militia and Police, Mining and Mineral Resources, and Transportation Committees and worked diligently to enact important legislation for the benefit of all Virginians; and

WHEREAS, a respected leader in his profession, John Tate was a member of the Virginia State Bar and served several terms on its council and executive committee; as chair of the Virginia State Bar's Senior Lawyers Conference he implemented a statewide tree-planting program; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated and conscientious attorney, community advocate, and public servant, John Tate served Smyth County, the Fifth District, and the Commonwealth with great intelligence and integrity; and

WHEREAS, a devoted family man, John Tate will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Jane; children, Jay, Campbell, Luke, and Ashley, and their families; numerous other family members and friends; and colleagues on both sides of the aisle; 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 respected public servant, the Honorable John Harvey Tate, Jr.; 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 John Harvey Tate, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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