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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 918

Offered February 15, 2013

*Celebrating the life of A. Calvin Neal.*

Patrons—Marshall, D.W. and Merricks; Senators: Ruff and Stanley

WHEREAS, A. Calvin Neal, a respected community leader, hardworking public servant, compassionate friend, and longtime resident of Ringgold, died on July 22, 2012; and

WHEREAS, a native of Pittsylvania County, Calvin Neal graduated from Dan River High School and joined the United States Air Force, honorably serving his country during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, after his military service, Calvin Neal returned to the Commonwealth and opened a grocery store in Ringgold; he served the community for over a decade, often generously allowing customers to buy food on credit during hard times; and

WHEREAS, driven to safeguard his fellow residents, Calvin Neal later became a charter member and the first chief of what is now known as Ringgold Volunteer Fire & Rescue; a brave and selfless firefighter, Calvin Neal worked in various capacities at the fire department for 44 years; and

WHEREAS, Calvin Neal was elected to the Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors for 16 years and eventually became the chair, gaining a reputation as a fair and open-minded leader; he was a problem solver who worked tirelessly to secure a bright future for the Dan River District; and

WHEREAS, also working to support the community on the West Piedmont Planning District Commission and on the board of Danville Regional Medical Center, Calvin Neal was a role model for other community leaders in the area; and

WHEREAS, Calvin Neal devoted countless hours of his time to bettering the lives of his fellow Ringgold residents as an active member, leader, or founder of several civic organizations and as a caring friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Calvin Neal enjoyed faith and fellowship with the community as a longtime member of Ringgold Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon, a Sunday school teacher, a superintendent, and the choir director; and

WHEREAS, Calvin Neal will be greatly missed and lovingly remembered by his wife of 61 years, Jean; sons, Michael and Barry, and their families; and many other family members and friends; 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. Calvin Neal, a dedicated public servant, a caring volunteer, and a pillar of the Ringgold community; 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 A. Calvin Neal as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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