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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 339

Offered January 10, 2013

*Celebrating the life of Donald Edwin Neal.*

Patron—Puckett

WHEREAS, Donald Edwin Neal, a successful businessman and an active contributor to the Bluefield community, died on December 19, 2012; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Bluefield, Donald Neal was born in 1933 to the late Thomas and Darthula Neal; and

WHEREAS, after joining Bluefield Monument Company, Inc., in 1952, Donald Neal later purchased the company in 1983 and passed ownership on to his son in 2005; though Donald Neal retired in 2002, he remained a loyal presence at the company; and

WHEREAS, Donald Neal was an adept craftsman, as skilled at free-handing monuments as he was at baking biscuits for meetings; and

WHEREAS, Donald Neal faithfully served as a member of the Tazewell Area Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Bluefield Chamber of Commerce, and as the chair of the Democratic Party for the Eastern District of Tazewell County; and

WHEREAS, deeply involved in the community, Donald Neal held leadership positions in Clinch Valley Community Action, Habitat for Humanity, the Bluefield Business and Professional Association, the United Way of the Virginias, the Kiwanis Club of Bluefield, and many other organizations; and

WHEREAS, Donald Neal was often honored for his contributions, including in 2006 when he received the Robert Francis Hamilton Award from the Greater Bluefield Chamber of Commerce and in 2010 when Clinch Valley Community Action named their offices the Donald E. Neal Building; and

WHEREAS, Donald Neal was also a lifelong member of the Virginia Parent Teacher Association and a founder of other parent teacher associations in Tazewell County schools; and

WHEREAS, a devoted member of the Bluefield Church of God, Donald Neal helped to dig the foundation for the church building; he later served as the church clerk and taught Sunday school; and

WHEREAS, Donald Neal is survived by his wife of 58 years, Peggy; two children, Nancy and Gary, and their families; and many other family members and friends; 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 Donald Edwin Neal, a hardworking craftsman, business owner, community servant, and a pillar in the Bluefield community; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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