

2014 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 244

Celebrating the life of Carroll Edward Keen, Sr.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 7, 2014
Agreed to by the Senate, February 13, 2014

WHEREAS, Carroll Edward Keen, Sr., a respected small business owner, decorated veteran of World War II, and supporter of the Smithfield community, died on September 18, 2013; and

WHEREAS, a native of Chatham, Carroll "Pete" Keen graduated from Pittsylvania High School in 1939 and worked in Newport News as a young man, first in the construction industry and then for the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company; and

WHEREAS, Pete Keen entered the United States Army in 1944 and fought in France and Germany with distinction as a member of the 398th Regiment, Company F, 100th Infantry Division; he was awarded the Bronze Star and the Combat Infantry Badge; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, Pete Keen was one of the "Sons of Bitche," soldiers who took part in the advance on Bitche, a heavily defended village in France; and

WHEREAS, after the war, Pete Keen returned to Newport News and attended apprentice school at the Newport News shipyard; he then worked for more than 28 years as a master machinist at Dunkum's Machine Shop, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1970s, Pete Keen, together with his son and daughter-in-law, opened Keen's Automotive Center in Smithfield; during his years in Isle of Wight County, Pete Keen supported many county projects and was a respected member of the community; and

WHEREAS, a devoted husband and father, Pete Keen will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by Grace, his wife of 71 years; his children, Carroll, Jr., Brenda, Carolyn, and Ruth, 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 Carroll Edward Keen, Sr., a successful small business owner, World War II veteran, and supporter of the 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 Carroll Edward Keen, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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