

2014 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 269

Celebrating the life of Dr. Michael G. Basham.

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

WHEREAS, Dr. Michael G. Basham of Wise, a former superintendent of schools in Scott and Wise Counties, died on January 11, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Michael Basham, a native of Shawsville, graduated from Christiansburg High School and earned degrees from Emory and Henry College and the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, during a long and productive career in education, Michael Basham always worked to put the needs of students, staff, and administration at the forefront; he was an effective leader who ably provided guidance and insight to students, school employees, and school board members; and

WHEREAS, Michael Basham had extensive experience in public school administration and was noted for his success in raising the academic achievement of students in the Wise County Public Schools; as a pioneer in education, he also was a strong advocate of empowerment through education; and

WHEREAS, in addition to leading school systems in two counties in Southwest Virginia, Michael Basham had been superintendent of schools in Lunenburg County; Clinton, North Carolina; and Hertford County, North Carolina, where he was called out of retirement to lead the school system; and

WHEREAS, Michael Basham enjoyed fellowship and worship at the Wise First Church of God; he was also an Eagle Scout, a Mason, and a member of the Wise Kiwanis Club, and had proudly served the nation as a soldier in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, with a love of family, football, and friends, Michael Basham was known as a gentle giant and a friend to all he met; his accomplishments were many and he also generously supported and encouraged the best in others; and

WHEREAS, Michael Basham will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by his loving wife of 50 years, Betty Jo; his children, Chris and Michelle, and their families; and many other family members, friends, and colleagues; 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 Dr. Michael G. Basham, an outstanding educator and a dedicated public servant; 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 Dr. Michael G. Basham as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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