

## 2014 SESSION

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### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 10

Offered January 8, 2014

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*Celebrating the life of Evarts Walton Opie, Jr.*

Patron—Bell, Richard P.

WHEREAS, Evarts Walton Opie, Jr., retired publisher of *The News Leader* of Staunton and a civic leader whose roots ran deep in the community, died on September 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Evarts Opie attended public schools in the City of Staunton, Virginia Episcopal School, and the University of Virginia; he proudly served the Commonwealth and the nation, joining the Virginia National Guard in 1953 at age 17; he retired from the military after 27 years of service with the rank of lieutenant colonel; and

WHEREAS, Evarts Opie's career at his family's newspaper began at a young age; he was 12 when he became a newspaper carrier and his first full-time work at *The News Leader* was in the display advertising department; and

WHEREAS, Evarts Opie's career at *The News Leader* spanned almost four decades; he was advertising manager, business manager, general manager, and served as president and publisher from 1981 until he retired in 1994; and

WHEREAS, many local organizations benefitted from Evarts Opie's civic contributions, including the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace, now known as the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library & Museum, where he served as president of the foundation, the Staunton Rotary Club, the local Salvation Army, and he was a charter member of the Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Evarts Opie worked his entire life for the betterment of the City of Staunton and the surrounding community, both as a newspaper publisher and in his many charitable activities; and

WHEREAS, Evarts Opie will be greatly missed by his wife, Patricia; his sons, E. Walton III and David, and their families; and many other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of a successful businessman and devoted father, Evarts Walton Opie, 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 Evarts Walton Opie, Jr., as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory and admiration for his work on behalf of Staunton and the surrounding community.

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