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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 130

Offered February 10, 2014

Celebrating the life of James Calvin Ragsdale.

Patrons—Ruff; Delegate: Wright

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WHEREAS, James Calvin Ragsdale of Blackstone, the longest-serving active member of the Blackstone Volunteer Fire Department, died on January 3, 2014; and

WHEREAS, James "Jimmy" Ragsdale was a volunteer firefighter for 43 years; he was an inspiration to all who worked with him, never failing to offer encouragement, support, and praise to other first responders; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his dedication and commitment to the volunteer fire department, Jimmy Ragsdale also was a strong supporter of the Nottoway High School football team both as a fan and as a volunteer; and

WHEREAS, family and community were very important to Jimmy Ragsdale; he is remembered for his kindness, for his involvement in the activities and events of Blackstone and the surrounding area, and for his love of hunting as a member of the Ivy Bluff Hunt Club; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Ragsdale's life serves as a shining example of the bravery, dedication to duty, and sacrifice shown by firefighters and other first responders throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Ragsdale will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by his wife, Debbie; his daughters, Rebecca, Monica, and Ashley, and their families; and many other family members, friends, and fellow firefighters; 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 James Calvin Ragsdale, a dedicated firefighter who worked selflessly to protect the lives and property of his friends and neighbors; and, be it

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