15100789D HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 612

Offered January 14, 2015
Prefiled January 13, 2015

Celebrating the life of William Gerald Saunders, Sr.

Patrons—Jones and Mason; Senator: Cosgrove

WHEREAS, William Gerald Saunders, Sr., the longtime fire chief of Chuckatuck Volunteer Fire Department and an admired member of the Suffolk community, died on September 25, 2014; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Chuckatuck High School, William Gerald "Jerry" Saunders, Sr., honorably served his country as a member of the United States Air Force for four years; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Saunders joined the Chuckatuck Volunteer Fire Department in 1954 and went on to courageously safeguard the lives and property of his fellow Suffolk residents over the course of a distinguished 60-year career, including 17 years as fire chief; and

WHEREAS, an active and respected leader in the department, Jerry Saunders was a trusted mentor to countless fellow volunteer firefighters, and he left a legacy of excellence for future chiefs; and

WHEREAS, generously volunteering his time and talents to better the community, Jerry Saunders served as a member of the Chuckatuck Ruritan Club and a charter member of the Suffolk County Auxiliary Police; he also worked with Boy Scouts of America Troop 25 and many other organizations; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Saunders enjoyed fellowship and worship with the Chuckatuck community as an active member of Oakland Christian United Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Saunders will be lovingly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Iola; children, Wendy and Jay, and their families; and numerous other family members, friends, and fellow firefighters; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sympathy the loss of William Gerald Saunders, Sr., the deeply respected and dedicated fire chief of the Chuckatuck Volunteer Fire Department in Suffolk; 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 William Gerald Saunders, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.