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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 907

Offered February 23, 2015

*Celebrating the life of Captain James Richard Powell, Jr., USN (Ret.).*

Patrons—Minchew; Senators: Barker, Vogel, and Wagner

WHEREAS, Captain James Richard Powell, Jr., USN (Ret.), a decorated war hero who flew more than 200 combat missions during the Vietnam War and a respected member of the McLean community, died on January 11, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Captain Powell graduated from Flushing High School and received an appointment to the United States Naval Academy; after graduating in 1950, he attended flight school in Florida and Texas and was assigned to Naval Air Station Miramar; and

WHEREAS, Captain Powell earned a reputation as a skilled and dedicated pilot; he took command of VA-144 attack squadron in 1966 and planned and led 211 combat missions over Vietnam, including a strike on a North Vietnamese power station against determined enemy fire, for which he earned a Silver Star; and

WHEREAS, after the war, Captain Powell served as Commanding Officer of a carrier group and Commanding Officer of the USS *Austin* and USS *Iwo Jima*; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished military career, Captain Powell earned the Silver Star, two Legions of Merit, four Distinguished Flying Crosses, 24 Air Medals, and five Navy Commendation Medals; and

WHEREAS, after his well-earned retirement from military service in 1978, Captain Powell diligently supported the United States Naval Academy, assisting with fundraisers and attending many reunions and class functions; and

WHEREAS, Captain Powell will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 62 years, Mary; children, James III, Les, Lindsey, John, and Frances, and their families; and numerous other family members, friends, and fellow soldiers; 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 Captain James Richard Powell, Jr., USN (Ret.); 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 Captain James Richard Powell, Jr., USN (Ret.) as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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