

2015 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 959

Celebrating the life of Betty Van Yahres.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 25, 2015
Agreed to by the Senate, February 26, 2015

WHEREAS, Betty Van Yahres of Charlottesville, who with her husband established Van Yahres Tree Company and who was a volunteer in many civic and charitable organizations and a devoted wife and mother, died on February 7, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a native of McKeesport, Pennsylvania, Betty Van Yahres earned a bachelor's degree from Seton Hill University and worked first for H. J. Heinz Company and then for Shell Oil Company in California; and

WHEREAS, Betty Van Yahres then met her husband, Mitchell Van Yahres, at Cornell University, where she earned a master's degree; after the couple married in 1948, they moved to Charlottesville and started Van Yahres Tree Company; and

WHEREAS, as the couple settled in Charlottesville and began to raise a family, Betty Van Yahres became active in local civic groups, including the University League, Friends of the Library, and Heritage Repertory Theater; she also was cochair of Madison House and president of Community Child Aid; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Betty Van Yahres contributed her time and talents to the Church of the Holy Comforter Parish Council, and she was a member of the board of Camp Holiday Trails, Shelter for Help in Emergency, and WVPT public television station in Harrisonburg; and

WHEREAS, Betty Van Yahres also supported her husband's political career as he represented the residents of Charlottesville in local and state government; she helped in his election campaigns and while he served in office; and

WHEREAS, Betty Van Yahres, who was predeceased by her husband and by a daughter, Christine, will be fondly remembered by her children, Mike, Mark, Keith, Beth, and Laura, and their families, and by many other family members and friends; 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 Betty Van Yahres of Charlottesville, who with her husband established Van Yahres Tree Company and who was a volunteer in many civic and charitable organizations and a devoted wife and mother; 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 Betty Van Yahres as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

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