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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 465**

Offered March 4, 2016

*Celebrating the life of Noah Purcelle Brown.*

Patrons—McClellan and McQuinn; Senator: McEachin

WHEREAS, Noah Purcelle Brown of Richmond, a compassionate spiritual leader and a funeral director who served thousands of local families in their time of need, died on April 23, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a native of New Kent County, Purcelle Brown honorably served his country as a member of the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, in 1960, after returning home from the military, Purcelle Brown began working at Chiles Funeral Home for his uncle; he attended Eckels College of Embalming in Philadelphia and received his first state license as funeral director in 1963; and

WHEREAS, Purcelle Brown worked as a funeral director for 55 years and served more than 9,000 families until his well-earned retirement; he was respected by his peers in the field and was named president of the Richmond Funeral Directors Association; and

WHEREAS, Purcelle Brown enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as a deacon at Moore Street Missionary Baptist Church, where he served on the finance committee; he also worked to enhance the quality of life of his fellow Richmond residents as a past master of East End Masonic Lodge No. 233 and a member of the North Richmond YMCA board; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his beloved wife, Betty, Purcelle Brown will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his daughter, Laurie, and her family, and numerous 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 Noah Purcelle Brown, a spiritual leader and a longtime funeral director who served thousands of families in Richmond; 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 Noah Purcelle Brown as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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