

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 504

Celebrating the life of James H. Whiting.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 9, 2016
Agreed to by the Senate, March 10, 2016

WHEREAS, James H. Whiting, a hardworking preservationist who helped safeguard the history and heritage of the Commonwealth by restoring historic buildings in the Richmond area, died on November 12, 2015; and

WHEREAS, at a young age, James Whiting moved with his family to Winchester, where he graduated from John Handley High School; in 1952, he was the first University of Virginia student to earn an art degree and would later serve as a part-time art teacher at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College; and

WHEREAS, after serving his country in the United States Army during the Korean War, James Whiting returned to the Commonwealth to manage a car business, while earning another degree from the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, James Whiting was recruited as a salesman by Burlington Industries in 1959 and traveled the country, rising through the ranks to become assistant national sales manager; during his travels, he cultivated his love of old buildings by buying and repairing or restoring houses; and

WHEREAS, after Burlington Industries downsized in 1975, James Whiting relocated to Richmond and worked at Anderson and Strudwick, where he retired as executive vice president in 1990; and

WHEREAS, first recruited by the trustee board of the Historic Richmond Foundation in 1975, James Whiting became president of the trustee board from 1985 to 1987; he earned the respect of his peers as a hard worker who was quick to lend a hand with any job, including painting, plastering, and woodwork; and

WHEREAS, James Whiting helped save the National Theatre from demolition and was involved with efforts to restore the Monumental Church; he was a founding member and former chair of the Capitol Square Preservation Council, which completed the first landscape master plan for Capitol Square and initiated a restoration and expansion effort under his leadership; and

WHEREAS, James Whiting will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Barbara; children, Julia, Welby, Sarah, Stanton, and Barbara, and their families; and many other family members, friends, and colleagues; 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 James H. Whiting, a dedicated volunteer who helped preserve numerous historic buildings 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 James H. Whiting as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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