

2016 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 10

Celebrating the life of William R. White.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 15, 2016

WHEREAS, William R. White of Smithfield, a patriotic veteran and a respected member of the community, died on July 24, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Smithfield, William White joined many of the other young men of his generation in service to his country during World War II when he was drafted into the United States Army in 1945; and

WHEREAS, William White transferred to the United States Army Air Corps and was assigned to the 99th Pursuit Squadron, attached to the 332nd Fighter Group, one of the famed units of African American pilots that became known as the Tuskegee Airmen; and

WHEREAS, responsible for servicing the unit's planes, William White kept his fellow soldiers in the air and worked to ensure that they returned safely; the Tuskegee Airmen took part in more than 1,500 combat missions and earned many decorations, including 96 Distinguished Flying Crosses; and

WHEREAS, a quiet professional, William White rarely spoke about his wartime service and unique place in history, stating that he was only doing his duty to his nation; and

WHEREAS, William White enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as a member of Little Zion Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, William White will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Elsie; children, Paul, Brandon, and Inetha, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of William R. White, a humble servant to the Commonwealth and the United States; 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 R. White as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

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