

2016 SESSION

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 110

Offered January 29, 2016

Celebrating the life of C. Edwin Estes.

Patron—Massie

WHEREAS, C. Edwin Estes of Richmond, an accomplished businessman who helped grow one of the largest trucking companies in the eastern United States, died on April 6, 2015; and

WHEREAS, C. Edwin "Ed" Estes joined many of the other young men of his generation in service to the nation during World War II as a flight instructor in the United States Army Air Corps; after the war, he used his savings to purchase a plane and worked as a stunt pilot; and

WHEREAS, Ed Estes, an alumnus of the University of Virginia, began his career in the trucking industry with his father's company, Estes Express Lines, and later established his own freight-hauling business, C. E. Estes Contract Carrier in Shockoe Bottom; and

WHEREAS, a shrewd businessman, Ed Estes helped his company grow by ensuring that resources were used efficiently and trucks never traveled empty; in 1997, he acquired Great Coastal, which would become Great Coastal Express, one the region's premier trucking companies, with a fleet of 550 tractors and nearly 900 employees; and

WHEREAS, highly respected in the transportation industry, Ed Estes was inducted into the Greater Richmond Business Hall of Fame in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Ed Estes worked to enhance the community through his leadership and wisdom as a member of many civic and service organizations, and he enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community at River Road United Methodist Church and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, Ed Estes generously contributed \$2.5 million to build the Dorothy Thomasson Estes Center for Theatre and Dance at James Madison University, the largest donation in the university's history at the time, in honor of his late first wife whom was an alumnus; and

WHEREAS, Ed Estes will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Susan; daughter, Martha, and her family; and numerous other family members, friends, and colleagues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of C. Edwin Estes, a successful businessman and respected member of the Richmond community; 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 C. Edwin Estes as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

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