HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 197

Celebrating the life of Keith Marshall de la Cruz.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 8, 2016

WHEREAS, Keith Marshall de la Cruz, a respected veterinarian and a beloved friend to many in the Alexandria community, died on July 20, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a native of Northern Virginia, Keith de la Cruz graduated from the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine and practiced as a veterinarian in Milwaukee for two years before returning to the Commonwealth in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Keith de la Cruz continued his medical career with the Caring Hands Animal Hospital and generously volunteered his time as a visiting veterinarian for the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, Keith de la Cruz later joined AtlasVet DC, where he was admired for his sage guidance and medical expertise as much as for his ability to put both animals and people at ease, especially in difficult situations; and

WHEREAS, Keith de la Cruz also served as a former member of the Environmental Legionella Isolation Techniques Evaluation Program, past president of the Northern Virginia Veterinary Medical Association, and secretary-treasurer of the Virginia Veterinary Medical Association; and

WHEREAS, a respected mentor and a compassionate friend and caregiver, Keith de la Cruz will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by numerous family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Keith Marshall de la Cruz, an admired veterinarian who served and cared for countless pets and their families in Alexandria; 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 Keith Marshall de la Cruz as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.