

2016 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 205

Celebrating the life of Mary Aylett Creath Payne.

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

WHEREAS, Mary Aylett Creath Payne of Richmond, an effective and compassionate advocate for the elderly, community volunteer, woman of great faith, and devoted wife and mother, died on March 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Mary Payne, who was born in Alexandria, attended the City of Richmond Public Schools and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Richmond, graduating Phi Beta Kappa; in college, she was president of the YWCA, member of the Mortar Board, and Homecoming Queen; and

WHEREAS, after college, Mary Payne worked for St. Christopher's School in Richmond and then turned to raising a family while serving as a pastor's wife and community volunteer; and

WHEREAS, Mary Payne's 30-year career as an advocate for the Commonwealth's elderly population began in 1974; she worked for the League of Older Americans and the Virginia Department of Aging before becoming executive director of the Capital Area Agency on Aging—now popularly known as Senior Connections—from 1981 to 1998; and

WHEREAS, as a spokesperson for the Commonwealth's senior citizens, Mary Payne helped establish Virginia's long-term care ombudsman program and was the first person to hold the position; she also led the effort to establish Elderhomes in Central Virginia, which is now known as Project:HOMES; and

WHEREAS, many organizations benefited from Mary Payne's involvement and leadership, including the League of Women Voters and the Historic Polegreen Church Foundation; she was a woman of great faith who worshipped at Second Presbyterian Church and took part in many of its ministries; and

WHEREAS, Mary Payne will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by James, her husband of 62 years; her children, Lewis, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Martha, and their families; and many other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Mary Aylett Creath Payne of Richmond, an advocate for the elderly who was the first ombudsman of the Commonwealth's long-term care ombudsman program, community volunteer, woman of great faith, and devoted wife and mother; 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 Mary Aylett Creath Payne as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for her memory.

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