SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 193

Celebrating the life of Alpha Black Via Averill.

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

WHEREAS, Alpha Black Via Averill, a respected entrepreneur and a beloved member of the Alleghany County community, died on February 15, 2016, at the age of 109; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of the Low Moor area of Alleghany County, Alpha "Granny" Averill was born in 1907 and was a witness to major events of the twentieth century, including the release of the first automobile, the Great Flood of 1913, the Great Depression, and both World Wars; and

WHEREAS, for more than 50 years, Granny Averill was the proprietor of Granny Averill's Company Store and Restaurant, a quaint country store offering delicious homemade food that served as a reminder of simpler times for many local residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Granny Averill was well-known in the Low Moor area for her kindness and zest for life; she served the community in numerous ways, including as one of the original donors to the local YMCA; and

WHEREAS, a woman of deep and abiding faith, Granny Averill enjoyed fellowship and worship as a devout member of Low Moor Presbyterian Church, where she played the organ and the piano for more than 60 years; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her husband, William, and one son, Billy, Granny Averill will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her sons, Gene and Wayne, and their families and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Alpha Black Via Averill, a small business owner and a beloved member of the Low Moor community in Alleghany County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Alpha Black Via Averill as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.