

2017 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 804

Celebrating the life of Joan Joyce Harrison Nelms.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 27, 2017
Agreed to by the Senate, February 2, 2017

WHEREAS, Joan Joyce Harrison Nelms, a successful entrepreneur, devoted community leader, and beloved member of the Suffolk community, died on April 19, 2016; and

WHEREAS, a native of Honaker, Joan "Jo" Joyce Harrison Nelms graduated from Lebanon High School and Emory & Henry College, where she was a forward on the women's basketball team; and

WHEREAS, possessed of an entrepreneurial spirit, Jo Nelms founded or co-founded Driver Contractors, Inc., Teach's Lair Marina, and Joan Corp.; she was also a founder of Nansemond-Suffolk Academy and Xenith Bank and was an owner of Western Branch Metals; and

WHEREAS, Jo Nelms strengthened the community by supporting Little League sports, the Boy Scouts of America, the Girl Scouts of the USA, Suffolk Project Lifesaver, and many other civic and service organizations; and

WHEREAS, a woman who lived her faith through her actions, Jo Nelms enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as a member of Berea Christian Church, where she held numerous leadership positions, including president of the Berea Women's Fellowship, and helped found the church library; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her husband, Frank, Jo Nelms will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her children, Lois, Frank, and Robert, and their families, and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Joan Joyce Harrison Nelms, a respected small business owner and a pillar of the Suffolk 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 Joan Joyce Harrison Nelms as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

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