

## 2017 SESSION

ENROLLED

### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 396

*Celebrating the life of John Robert Rilling.*

Agreed to by the Senate, February 16, 2017  
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 20, 2017

WHEREAS, John Robert Rilling, a respected historian and a passionate educator who inspired countless young men and women at the University of Richmond, died on January 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, a native of Wausau, Wisconsin, John Rilling earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota, graduating summa cum laude, and earned master's and doctoral degrees from Harvard University, where he was named a Woodrow Wilson Fellow; and

WHEREAS, John Rilling relocated to Richmond in 1959 and began a 40-year career at the University of Richmond, where he specialized in Tudor and Stuart England, as well as the Reformation; and

WHEREAS, John Rilling built strong, personal relationships with his students and was a leader in and out of the classroom, earning the Distinguished Educator Award five times; in addition, he volunteered his time and leadership as a board member of Agecroft Hall and The Shepherd's Center; and

WHEREAS, a passionate lifelong learner, John Rilling read five newspapers every morning and several books each week, always seeking to enhance his knowledge of the world; and

WHEREAS, John Rilling will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Joanne; children, Andy and Geoff, 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 John Robert Rilling, an admired historian and educator who made many contributions to the Richmond community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of John Robert Rilling as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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