

## 2017 SESSION

INTRODUCED

17100480D

### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 99

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled December 21, 2016

*Celebrating the life of Thomas Wayne Evans.*

Patron—Ruff

WHEREAS, Thomas Wayne Evans, a former public safety officer and entrepreneur who dedicated his life to protecting and preserving the Commonwealth's valuable natural resources, died on June 21, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Evans developed a passion for conservation and protecting the environment at a young age, when he noticed the effects of pollution on the Dan River, where he spent much of his childhood fishing and swimming; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Evans attended the University of Virginia and Virginia Commonwealth University and pursued a career in law enforcement, both as a police officer in Danville and Richmond and as a private investigator; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Evans worked for the Veterans Administration and owned the Oasis Restaurant in Richmond, which was known for its delectable barbeque, before he answered his calling to become an advocate for the environment; and

WHEREAS, working with local and state officials, Thomas Evans focused on water quality issues, wildlife protection, and sportsmen's rights, developing a strong working relationship with members of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Evans helped classify the Staunton River as a Scenic River, led a coalition to stop the construction of a coal slurry pipeline, and supported firearms safety education initiatives; he safeguarded all Virginians by helping to establish anti-stalker laws in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Evans worked to preserve the history and heritage of the Commonwealth by researching and writing a book on the migration of Native American tribes, gaining a wealth of knowledge on all of the tribes of the Americas; and

WHEREAS, a confident leader and a charismatic mentor to many, Thomas Evans will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by numerous family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of Virginia hereby note with great sadness the loss of Thomas Wayne Evans, a tireless champion for the conservation of the Commonwealth's valuable natural resources; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Thomas Wayne Evans as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect for his memory.

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