

## 2018 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 376

Offered February 26, 2018

*Celebrating the life of Bernard Lee Stokes.*

Patrons—Gilbert, Collins and Webert; Senator: Obenshain

WHEREAS, Bernard Lee Stokes, a beloved father, respected business leader, and dedicated Front Royal resident who served for several years on the Warren County Board of Supervisors, died on January 27, 2018; and

WHEREAS, born and raised in Warren County, Bernard "Bernie" Lee Stokes attended Bridgewater College and the University of Richmond, where he earned a degree in business; he then served for two years in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, a gifted entrepreneur, Bernie Stokes spent his career opening and operating retail stores across the Shenandoah Valley region; his last store, Stokes Mart, remained in operation for approximately 40 years before he sold it in 2014; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his successful career in business, Bernie Stokes was a proud Front Royal resident who served for 16 years on the Front Royal Town Council, including two terms as vice mayor, and for 12 years on the Warren County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, Bernie Stokes was a member of numerous local clubs and organizations in Front Royal, including the Moose, the Elks, and American Legion Giles B. Cook Post 53; he was also active in the Front Royal Rotary Club, which presented him with the Paul Harris Fellow recognition; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, the Town of Front Royal and the Front Royal-Warren County Chamber of Commerce presented Bernie Stokes with the Key to Front Royal in recognition of his many years of service and dedication to the community; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his wife of 49 years, Sarah, Bernie Stokes will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his children, Andrew, Jean, Melisa, Anita, and Alicia, and their families, as well as numerous other family members, friends, and Front Royal residents; 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 Bernard Lee Stokes, a lifelong Front Royal resident who gave outstanding service to the 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 Bernard Lee Stokes as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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