## **HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 55**

Celebrating the life of James W. Smith III.

Agreed to by the House, February 9, 2018

WHEREAS, James W. Smith III, a beloved husband and father and a respected member of the Ashland community, died on October 28, 2017; and

WHEREAS, James "Jim" W. Smith III was born in Ashland in 1947 and attended Virginia Tech; during the Vietnam War, he served in the United States Army Reserve; and

WHEREAS, in 1984, Jim Smith cofounded Hanover Controls and Supply Corporation, an automation systems and industrial controls distributor based in Ashland; he continued to work at the company as co-owner for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his years of success in business, Jim Smith brought his leadership skills to a number of community organizations; he was a member and past president of the Ashland Jaycees, the Kiwanis Club of Ashland, and the Hanover Association of Businesses, and he was active in the Hanover Club; and

WHEREAS, a talented performer with a lifelong love of music, Jim Smith participated in the annual Ashland Musical Variety Show as a member of the groups the Hometown Boys and the Hanover Heartthrobs; he also played mandolin and sang with several bluegrass bands, including the group Short Haul; and

WHEREAS, Jim Smith enjoyed fellowship and worship at St. Peter's United Methodist Church, and he was happiest when spending time with his family or enjoying days out on the river in Edwardsville; and

WHEREAS, Jim Smith will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Ruth; his children, Courtney, Travis, and Andrew, and their families; and countless other family members, friends, and residents of Ashland; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of James W. Smith III, a respected business leader and dedicated member of the Ashland 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 James W. Smith III as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.