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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 169

Offered February 21, 2018

Celebrating the life of Kenneth Atwell Staples, Sr.

Patrons—Deeds; Delegates: Bell, Robert B., Landes and Toscano

WHEREAS, Kenneth Atwell Staples, Sr., a beloved father and husband, and a respected Charlottesville resident and barber shop owner who gave generously of his time in service to the local community, died on November 18, 2017; and

WHEREAS, born and raised in Charlottesville, Kenneth "Ken" Staples graduated from Lane High School and worked at the C&O Railroad before serving in the United States Army during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, in 1956, Ken Staples began cutting hair alongside his father, Albert Staples, at the family's Staples Barber Shop in downtown Charlottesville; the pair ran the shop together for nearly 40 years before Albert Staples' retirement; and

WHEREAS, during his many decades as a barber, Ken Staples' easygoing and gregarious personality won him legions of friends and loyal customers; by the time he retired to care for his wife, he was known as a Charlottesville icon; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his work at Staples Barber Shop, Ken Staples was also a passionate supporter of his community; he was active in the Charlottesville Host Lions Club, the Jaycees, the Monticello Guards, and the Charlottesville Dogwood Festival, and served on the Virginia Board for Barbers and Cosmetology; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, Ken Staples was one of several local volunteers who were instrumental in creating Charlottesville's Dogwood Vietnam Memorial, one of the first civil monuments in the nation designed to honor those who served and died in the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, outside of his barber shop, Ken Staples had a lifelong interest in trains and railroads and was a natural performer who often sang, acted, or emceed at local events; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his wife, Barbara, and daughter, Leslie, Ken Staples will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his children, Beth and Chip, and their families, as well as countless other family members, friends, and Charlottesville residents; 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 Kenneth Atwell Staples, Sr., a talented barber and devoted advocate of the Charlottesville community; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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