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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 238

Offered March 5, 2018

*Celebrating the life of Donald S. Beyer, Sr.*

Patrons—Ebbin, Barker, Deeds, Edwards, Favola, Hanger, Howell, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Petersen, Wagner and Wexton; Delegates: Rasoul and Sullivan

WHEREAS, Donald S. Beyer, Sr., a patriotic veteran, beloved patriarch of a large family, and a longtime resident of Falls Church who served his fellow residents as an automotive dealer, died on December 23, 2017; and

WHEREAS, a native of McLean, Donald "Don" Beyer grew up on Spring Hill Farm and developed a passion for cars at a young age; he built his first car with parts from a local junkyard at the age of 12 and later raced in what would eventually become the National Association of Stock Car Auto Racing; and

WHEREAS, Don Beyer graduated from Western High School and the United States Military Academy at West Point and served his country as a member of the United States Army during the Korean War; he held several postings as a military policeman, including at Fort Leavenworth, the Pentagon, and Enewetak Atoll, where the United States conducted nuclear testing; and

WHEREAS, Don Beyer could often be found in his garage, fixing cars for friends and neighbors, and he served the community as the general manager of a Chrysler-Plymouth dealership until 1973, when he founded Don Beyer Volvo in Falls Church; and

WHEREAS, Don Beyer and his family helped grow the business into the Don Beyer Automotive Group, a network of nine dealerships in the area that employs more than 350 people and in 2017, sold more than 5,000 cars; and

WHEREAS, Don Beyer knew many of his customers by name and was a trusted mentor to his employees; his children and grandchildren continue to serve the Falls Church community and the Commonwealth through the family business and in many other capacities, demonstrating the same commitment to integrity and generosity; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his wife of 51 years, Nancy, and a daughter, Kathy, Don Beyer will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his five children, Don, Jr., Sherry, Weetie, Sandy, and Mike, and their families; his companion of seven years, Betty Knight; 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 Donald S. Beyer, Sr., a pillar of the Falls Church community; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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