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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 915

Offered February 11, 2019

*Celebrating the life of Colonel Robert B. Mason, USMC, Ret.*

Patrons—Delaney, Adams, D.M., Carr, Heretick, Hope, Kory, Landes, Lindsey, Mullin, Rasoul, Reid, Rodman, Sullivan, Thomas and Ware; Senators: Boysko, Deeds, Ebbin, Howell and Reeves

WHEREAS, Colonel Robert B. Mason, USMC, Ret., a respected community leader in Fairfax County, died on August 9, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Robert Mason joined the United States Marine Corps Reserve in 1952 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant after his graduation from Springfield College in Massachusetts in 1955; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his distinguished military career, Robert Mason served in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Marine Divisions and the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing; he was an advisor to the Republic of Korea Marine Corps, a communications officer during the Vietnam War, and commanding officer of the Marine Barracks at Naval Air Station Kodiak in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Robert Mason served as an instructor and academic director at the Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School, a communications planner at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, and a member of the Operations (J-3) staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Department of Defense Joint Tactical Communications Office; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his exceptional service to the nation, Robert Mason received the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V, and the Navy Unit Commendation, among other awards and decorations; and

WHEREAS, Robert Mason was a skilled athlete, running the Boston Marathon in under three hours multiple times; he volunteered his time and leadership as a youth soccer referee and softball umpire, and as a speaker for veteran activities at many local elementary and middle school events in Northern Virginia; he was active with the Society of St. Vincent De Paul at St. Timothy Parish in Chantilly and supported Wreaths Across America; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his wife of 48 years, Josephine, Robert Mason will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his children, Rick, Tim, Donna, Patty, and Terri, and their families, and numerous other family members and friends; 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 Colonel Robert B. Mason, USMC, Ret.; 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 Colonel Robert B. Mason, USMC, Ret., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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