

2020 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 158

Offered January 20, 2020

*Celebrating the life of the Reverend Sydney Strother Smith III.*

Patrons—O'Quinn, Kilgore, Wampler, Cole, M.L., Morefield and Ware; Senators: Pillion and Reeves

WHEREAS, the Reverend Sydney Strother Smith III, an esteemed attorney, admired spiritual leader, and engaged member of the Washington County community, died on May 19, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Sydney Smith grew up in Richmond, where he joined the Boy Scouts of America and earned the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout; he remained active in Scouting throughout his life as a troop leader and a longtime board member of the Sequoyah Council; and

WHEREAS, Sydney Smith graduated from the University of Richmond and the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at The College of William & Mary, where he served as managing editor of the *William & Mary Law Review*, then pursued a career as an attorney; and

WHEREAS, well known for his eloquence and legal acumen, Sydney Smith tried cases on a wide range of subjects, from claims related to black lung disease and mineral rights law to religious freedom litigation and guardian *ad litem* matters, including several cases before the Supreme Court of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Sydney Smith answered the call to the ministry in later life and was ordained as a priest in the Anglican Catholic Church in 1987; he served as a vicar in several churches for many years; and

WHEREAS, in addition to teaching law and debate at King University in Bristol, Sydney Smith offered his wisdom to numerous state boards, including the Public Broadcasting Board and a commission on surplus property; and

WHEREAS, Sydney Smith served as chair of the Washington County Republican Party and was a member of the GOP State Central Committee, as well as manager of his father's successful campaign for the Virginia House of Delegates in 1963; and

WHEREAS, Sydney Smith will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 52 years, Barbara; his daughters, Jacqueline, Sydney, and Nancy, 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 the Reverend Sydney Strother Smith III, a respected attorney, vicar, and community leader; 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 the Reverend Sydney Strother Smith III, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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