

2021 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 581

Offered January 13, 2021

Celebrating the life of Karl David Stoltzfus, Sr.

Patrons—Runion; Senator: Hanger

WHEREAS, Karl David Stoltzfus, Sr., an esteemed aviator and businessman and a beloved member of the Bridgewater community for many years, died on November 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Karl Stoltzfus acquired a love for aviation at an early age from his father, Christian, who started a crop spraying company in the 1930s and was a pioneer in the industry; after high school, Karl Stoltzfus worked at his father's business as a pilot and fabricator, acquiring valuable experience that would serve him throughout his career; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, Karl Stoltzfus and his family moved to the Shenandoah Valley to attend Eastern Mennonite College, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business; to support himself through school, he and his brother, Ken, founded K & K Aircraft, a small airplane parts business and aluminum smelting operation; and

WHEREAS, seven years after founding K & K Aircraft, Karl Stoltzfus purchased the Bridgewater Air Park and expanded the company's operations to provide a variety of mission-specific aviation services and solutions, including pest control, firefighting, and surveillance; known today as Dynamic Aviation, the company now sports a fleet of more than 140 aircraft and has employed hundreds of citizens of the Commonwealth over the past half-century; and

WHEREAS, a consummate aviator who was dedicated to the future of his industry, Karl Stoltzfus lovingly imparted his knowledge and wisdom to several generations of future mechanics and pilots; he was committed to the preservation of aviation history, restoring many legacy aircraft over the years, including the first airplane to serve as Air Force One; and

WHEREAS, guided throughout his life by his deep and abiding faith, Karl Stoltzfus enjoyed worship and fellowship with his community at First Presbyterian Church in Harrisonburg for many years; and

WHEREAS, Karl Stoltzfus will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his adoring wife of 57 years, Barbara; his children, Karl, Jr., Michelle, and Michael; 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 Karl David Stoltzfus, Sr., an accomplished aviator and businessman whose compassionate, positive, and selfless nature left a lasting impact on countless lives; 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 Karl David Stoltzfus, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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