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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 721

Offered August 2, 2021

Prefiled August 2, 2021

Celebrating the life of Clyde Nathaniel Washington, Jr.

Patrons—Torian and Cole, J.G.

WHEREAS, Clyde Nathaniel Washington, Jr., an inspirational educator and coach who dedicated himself to his community as a member of the Dumfries Town Council and through various civic activities, died on March 20, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Washington was a standout athlete at the former Walker-Grant High School in Fredericksburg, where he lettered in football, basketball, and track and set various records; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Washington became the first member of his family to graduate from college when he earned a bachelor's degree in vocational education from Norfolk State College, now Norfolk State University; later, he earned a master's degree in education from Virginia State College, now Virginia State University; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Washington began his noteworthy career in education at the former John F. Kennedy High School in Suffolk, cultivating his passion for mentoring youth as both an educator and coach; and

WHEREAS, upon relocating to Dumfries in 1971, Clyde Washington assumed teaching and coaching positions at Gar-Field Senior High School in Woodbridge, where over the next 25 years he would contribute greatly to the success of countless young people; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Washington's commitment to education manifested in his involvement with the Prince William County Education Association, the Virginia Education Association (VEA), and the National Education Association and in his roles as a district representative on the VEA Board of Directors and as a district president; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Washington gave generously of his time and talents to several local civic organizations, including Triangle Masonic Lodge #293 and the Woodbridge Kiwanis Club; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Washington was elected to the Dumfries Town Council in 1980 and held his seat for the next 28 years, including eight years as vice mayor, making him the longest tenured councilmember in Dumfries history; and

WHEREAS, upon his retirement as an educator in 1996, Clyde Washington received a certificate of outstanding achievement from Neabsco District Supervisor John Jenkins; later, in 2019, he and his wife, Gwen, were honored with the inaugural Mayor of Dumfries Living Legend Award; and

WHEREAS, guided throughout his life by his faith, Clyde Washington enjoyed worship and fellowship with his community at Little Union Baptist Church in Dumfries for many years, earning the distinction of deacon emeritus; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Washington will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his loving wife of 55 years, Gwendolyn; his children, Troy and Shannon, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Clyde Nathaniel Washington, Jr., an esteemed educator, coach, and public servant whose generosity and dedication touched many lives both in Dumfries and throughout the Commonwealth; 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 Clyde Nathaniel Washington, Jr., as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

HR721