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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 211

Offered February 10, 2022

Celebrating the life of Sidney J. Gunst, Jr.

Patrons—VanValkenburg; Senator: Hashmi

WHEREAS, Sidney J. Gunst, Jr., a visionary real estate developer who helped reshape western Henrico County through the creation of Innsbrook Corporate Center, died on October 22, 2021; and

WHEREAS, a native of Richmond, Sidney Gunst began working in real estate soon after graduating from what is now High Point University; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, at the age of 28, Sidney Gunst was the driving force behind the creation of Innsbrook Corporate Center in what was then a largely rural area of Henrico County to provide a convenient location for local businesses and events; and

WHEREAS, Sidney Gunst supported initiatives to reduce the ecological footprint of Innsbrook Corporate Center through forward-thinking programs on energy and water usage and waste treatment; in addition to more than 100 buildings, Innsbrook features trails, lakes, and other beautiful green spaces; and

WHEREAS, by 1999, Sidney Gunst's Innsbrook had become a premier business center in the region, with numerous corporate tenants representing more than 23,000 people, heralding the success of other major developments in the area like Short Pump Town Center and West Broad Village; and

WHEREAS, Sidney Gunst had more recently advocated for an urban mixed-use zoning designation in Innsbrook to allow for more mixed-use developments with retail spaces and apartments to better serve the needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, Sidney Gunst had a wide range of hobbies, including karate, cycling, kayaking, and flying; he crossed the United States from coast to coast on a bicycle, had visited many destinations in his single-engine plane, participated in several triathlons, and had even trekked on Mount Everest; and

WHEREAS, Sidney Gunst will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife Sheila; his children, Kelly, Kimberly, and Sidney III, and their families; and numerous other family members, friends, and colleagues; 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 Sidney J. Gunst, Jr., a respected real estate developer who made numerous contributions to the Richmond community; 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 Sidney J. Gunst, Jr., an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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