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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 245

Offered February 18, 2022

*Celebrating the life of Naval Air Crewman 2nd Class James P. Buriak, USN.*

Patrons—McNamara (By Request); Senator: DeSteph

WHEREAS, Naval Air Crewman 2nd Class James P. Buriak, USN, of Salem died in the line of duty on August 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, James "Jimmy" P. Buriak graduated from Salem High School and earned a bachelor's degree in sports management from Roanoke College; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of service to the nation, Jimmy Buriak joined the United States Navy and was assigned to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 8 based at Naval Air Station North Island in San Diego; and

WHEREAS, while on Gun Beach in Guam in 2020, Jimmy Buriak, a trained rescue swimmer, was alerted that a surfer had been caught in a rip current and heroically dove into the water to help pull the individual to shore; and

WHEREAS, on August 31, 2021, Jimmy Buriak was conducting routine flight operations from the USS *Abraham Lincoln* when his Sikorsky MH-60S helicopter crashed off the coast of California; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Buriak served the nation with integrity and dedication, and his tragic loss is a reminder of the dangers faced by men and women in uniform at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Buriak will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Megan; his son, Caulder; his parents, Jim and Carol; his sister, Laura, and her family; 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 Naval Air Crewman 2nd Class James P. Buriak, USN; 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 Naval Air Crewman 2nd Class James P. Buriak, USN, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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