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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 423

Offered March 7, 2022

Celebrating the life of Constance Pendleton Stuntz.

Patrons—Keam; Senator: Petersen

WHEREAS, Constance Pendleton Stuntz of Vienna, a respected local historian and vibrant member of the community, died on February 9, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Constance Stuntz grew up in Falls Church and graduated from Averett College and Duke University; and

WHEREAS, Constance Stuntz served the nation during World War II as a cryptographer with the United States Army Signal Corps and was tasked with cracking enemy codes from a makeshift base at Arlington Hall; and

WHEREAS, after marrying her husband, Mayo, Constance Stuntz spent most of the next several years in Vienna; the family lived in Japan for a two-year period, during which time she attended the Sogetsu School of Ikebana and honed her skills in floral arrangement; and

WHEREAS, Constance Stuntz subsequently worked as a real estate professional and operated an antique shop from her home, but she was best known in the community as a researcher and author who documented local history; and

WHEREAS, Constance and Mayo Stuntz published three books together: *This Was Vienna, Virginia: Facts and Photos* in 1987, *This Was Tysons Corner, Virginia: Facts and Photos* in 1990, and *This Was Virginia 1900-1927 as Shown by the Glass Negatives of J. Harry Shannon, the Rambler* in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Constance Stuntz published a fourth book, *A View of Falls Church, Virginia: Including Its Western Neighbors, Thru the 1881-1889 Diaries of Edmund Flagg, Esq.*, in 2005, and an additional book about the history of Falls Church will be published posthumously; and

WHEREAS, Constance Stuntz offered her leadership and wise insights to Historic Vienna, Inc., the Historical Society of Fairfax County, and the Northern Virginia Association for History; she was a longtime member and past president of the Ayr Hill Garden Club, a member of the Windover Heights Review Board, and a former chair of the Falls Church Reunion Committee; and

WHEREAS, among many awards and accolades, Constance Stuntz was named Lady Fairfax in 1992 and received Vienna's Heritage Preservation Award and the Jean Tibbetts History Award from the Great Falls Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her husband of 66 years, Mayo, Constance Stuntz will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by her children, Anne, Reid, and Mayo, Jr., 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 Constance Pendleton Stuntz, a highly admired author and historian in Vienna; 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 Constance Pendleton Stuntz as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory.

INTRODUCED

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