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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 416

Offered February 20, 2023

Celebrating the life of Elizabeth Lewis Beamer.

Patrons—Suetterlein, Barker, Bell, Boysko, Chase, Cosgrove, Deeds, DeSteph, Dunnavant, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Hackworth, Hanger, Hashmi, Howell, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Mason, McClellan, McDougale, McPike, Morrissey, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Peake, Petersen, Pillion, Reeves, Rouse, Ruff, Saslaw, Stanley, Stuart, Surovell and Vogel; Delegates: Head and McNamara

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Lewis Beamer, esteemed educator, cherished wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend, and a beloved member of the Christiansburg community, died on May 13, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth "Libby" Beamer was born on April 21, 1930, in Chilhowie to John William Lewis and Lady Maupin Lewis and shared a special childhood with her brothers, James and William, before proudly graduating from Virginia Intermont College and Radford College; and

WHEREAS, Libby Beamer captured the attention and heart of George L. Beamer, Jr., and during their 49-year marriage, they raised four loving and devoted sons, George III, John, James, and Richard; and

WHEREAS, Libby Beamer was a longtime teacher with Montgomery County Public Schools, retiring as an earth science teacher at Christiansburg Middle School; and

WHEREAS, Libby Beamer was an active member of Christiansburg Presbyterian Church, holding numerous leadership positions throughout the years, including deacon and ruling elder; and

WHEREAS, Libby Beamer was involved in Presbyterian Women at the local level and served Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery as moderator; and

WHEREAS, Libby Beamer had a special place in her heart for the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands in Wytheville and served on its Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Libby Beamer served on the Board of Directors of Sunnyside Presbyterian Home in Harrisonburg and the former Montgomery County Regional Hospital; and

WHEREAS, for over 40 years, Libby Beamer was an active member of the Christiansburg Book Club; and

WHEREAS, Libby Beamer was a unifying voice in the Republican Party of Virginia, having represented the Ninth Congressional District on the State Central Committee; and

WHEREAS, at the local level, the Montgomery County Republican Party and Montgomery County Republican Women's Club were strengthened by Libby Beamer's leadership; and

WHEREAS, for many years, Libby Beamer organized monthly Montgomery County Republican Party luncheons that made many national and statewide political figures accessible to her fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Libby Beamer was appointed by Governor George Allen to the Advisory Board on the Aging, on which she served with pride and appreciation; and

WHEREAS, preceded in death by her loving husband, George, Jr., Libby Beamer will be dearly missed and held deeply in the hearts of her four sons, George III, John, James, and Richard, and their families; and by numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Elizabeth Lewis Beamer, a highly admired and respected wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend, who will always be remembered for her passion, grace, and love for her family; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to the children of Elizabeth Lewis Beamer—George III, John, James, and Richard— as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her memory and her many contributions to the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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