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## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 185

Offered February 23, 2023

*Celebrating the life of Colonel Alfonso Victor Peña, USA, Ret.*

Patrons—Deeds, Bell, Chase, Cosgrove, DeSteph, Hackworth, Hanger, Hashmi, Lewis, Mason, McDougle, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Peake, Pillion, Reeves, Ruff, Spruill, Stanley, Stuart and Suetterlein

WHEREAS, Colonel Alfonso Victor Peña, USA, Ret., beloved member of the Charlottesville community, died on December 27, 2022; and

WHEREAS, a native of El Paso, Texas, where he attended Cathedral High School, Victor Peña went on to study at both Texas A&M University and the University of Texas at El Paso before fulfilling his childhood dream of becoming a soldier in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Victor Peña's assignments took him to Vietnam, Georgia, Germany, Spain, Kansas, Korea, the Commonwealth, and several posts in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Victor Peña earned the high honor of a Bronze Star for his service in Vietnam, as well as many other awards, and rose to the rank of colonel in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Victor Peña had a passion for commanding troops and treated them like family; after a distinguished military career spanning 26 years, he retired from the service and worked in the private sector as a contractor for the Department of Defense; and

WHEREAS, Victor Peña valued his family above all else and was happiest when spending time with his six grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Victor Peña supported his fellow veterans as an active member of the local Military Officers Association of America and could always be relied upon to have a United States flag flying proudly at his home; and

WHEREAS, guided by his faith, Victor Peña enjoyed worship and fellowship with his community at St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish in Charlottesville for many years; and

WHEREAS, preceded in death by his loving wife of 58 years, Ilse, Victor Peña will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his daughters, Stefanie and Angelica, and their families; and by numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of Virginia hereby note with great sadness the loss of Colonel Alfonso Victor Peña, USA, Ret., whose service to the country is an inspiration to all; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Colonel Alfonso Victor Peña, USA, Ret., as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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