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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 610

Offered January 20, 1999

On the death of Mary Mathews.

Patrons—Davis, Abbitt, Albo, Almand, Armstrong, Baker, Barlow, Baskerville, Behm, Bennett, Black, Blevins, Bloxom, Bryant, Byron, Callahan, Cantor, Christian, Clement, Councill, Cox, Cranwell, Crittenden, Croshaw, Darner, Davies, DeBoer, Deeds, Devolites, Diamonstein, Dickinson, Dillard, Drake, Dudley, Grayson, Griffith, Guest, Hall, Hamilton, Hargrove, Harris, Howell, Hull, Ingram, Jackson, Joannou, Johnson, Jones, J.C., Jones, S.C., Katzen, Keating, Kilgore, Landes, Marshall, May, McClure, McDonnell, McEachin, McQuigg, Melvin, Moran, Morgan, Moss, Murphy, Nixon, O'Brien, Orrock, Parrish, Phillips, Plum, Puller, Purkey, Putney, Reid, Rhodes, Robinson, Rollison, Ruff, Rust, Scott, Sherwood, Shuler, Spruill, Stump, Tata, Tate, Thomas, Van Landingham, Van Yahres, Wagner, Wardrup, Ware, Watts, Weatherholtz, Wilkins, Williams and Woodrum; Senator: Williams

WHEREAS, Mary Mathews, Yorktown matriarch, fervent patriot, and Outstanding Virginian of 1998, died on September 23, 1998 at the age of 82; and

WHEREAS, Mary Mathews immigrated from Greece to New York where she made her living by selling dresses for 30 cents, and where she met and married Nick Mathews; and

WHEREAS, Mary Mathews and her husband Nick established Nicks Seafood Pavilion in Yorktown, Virginia, where they achieved great success, their establishment became a well-known local landmark and where Mary Mathews became known as Miss Mary; and

WHEREAS, a prominent business and civic figure, Mary Mathews became legendary for her generosity, her love of Yorktown, and her love of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Mary Mathews was best known for her efforts in preserving Yorktown's history, donating the land on which the Yorktown Victory Center sits today; and

WHEREAS, Miss Mary never forgot the amazing opportunities offered by America, and never tired of encouraging Americans to show a greater appreciation for their country, she herself exhibiting deep and abiding pride in her adopted country; and

WHEREAS, Mary Mathews held a special respect for members of the armed services, and seldom charged anyone in the service for a meal at Nick's; and

WHEREAS, from the long hours she put in at the Yorktown restaurant that she and her husband built, to her generosity in giving away everything from food to land, Miss Mary did everything with gusto — and nothing half-heartedly; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of Miss Mary Mathews; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jim Krikales, manager of Nick's Seafood Pavilion, as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for an outstanding Virginian.

INTRODUCED

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