

2006 SPECIAL SESSION I

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5054

Offered May 10, 2006

Celebrating the lives of Judith Anna Spencer Lewis and Lawrence Gladding Lewis, Jr.

Patrons—Cline, Byron and Dudley

WHEREAS, Judith Anna Spencer Lewis and Lawrence Gladding Lewis, Jr., respected citizens of the Smith Mountain Lake community of Moneta, suffered untimely deaths on August 20, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Judith was born to Charles and Ellene McKendree on May 27, 1946, and Lawrence was born to Lawrence Gladding and Elizabeth Jean Lewis on September 13, 1946; and

WHEREAS, Judith McKendree graduated from Averett College and Mary Baldwin College, *summa cum laude*; and Lawrence Lewis graduated from Fork Union Military Academy and the University of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, a wonderful father, Lawrence Lewis raised his son Lawrence G. Lewis III and his lovely daughters Elizabeth and Ellen; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Lewis formerly resided in Decatur, Georgia; Pleasanton, California; and Richmond, Virginia; and his business career included tenure with Chesebrough Ponds and Pentel of America; and

WHEREAS, in 1995 Lawrence Lewis returned to Virginia to assist in the care of his mother; and

WHEREAS, Judith McKendree married John Spencer of Lexington on June 18, 1966, and raised two wonderful sons, Jeffrey and Eric; and

WHEREAS, Judith Spencer formerly resided in Wilmington, Delaware, as well as Crozet and Lexington, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Judith Spencer actively participated in the business community of Lexington as co-owner of J&B Office Supply for 12 years and as owner and operator of Lambert Building Supply from 1977 until 1988, with husband John, prior to renaming the business Spencer Home Center; and

WHEREAS, Judith Spencer suffered the death of her son, Jeffrey, on July 3, 2000, and lost her husband John after a courageous battle with cancer in April 2002; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to the community, Judith Spencer continued to operate Spencer Home Center as a partner with her son, Eric, and established the John Spencer Cancer Bash Fundraiser, contributing over \$100,000 for cancer research; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Lewis and Judith Spencer met and fell in love, discovered a shared joy of boating and of their beloved Smith Mountain Lake, and were married in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Lewis was an experienced boat captain, enjoyed duck hunting, and collected and restored antique cars; and

WHEREAS, Judith Lewis won numerous awards and recognitions for her artwork, contributing much of her work to charity events; and

WHEREAS, committed to the well-being of their neighbors, Lawrence and Judith Lewis attended Resurrection Catholic Church in Moneta and were active in their parish and community; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence and Judith Lewis died unexpectedly while boating on Smith Mountain Lake with their dog, Lady Dottie; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence and Judith Lewis will be fondly remembered for their vibrant personalities and loving natures and will be missed by their children Eric, Lawrence, Elizabeth, and Ellen; daughters-in-law Jaime and Cheryl and son-in-law Michael; wonderful grandchildren Emma, Kate, Conner, and Grady; and by grandson Tyler, born five days after their tragic deaths; and

WHEREAS, Larry and Judi Lewis, as they were affectionately known to their family and numerous friends and admirers, were devoted to one another in marriage and shared an enormous zest for life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the passing of Judith Anna Spencer Lewis and Lawrence Gladding Lewis, Jr.; 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 Judith Anna Spencer Lewis and Lawrence Gladding Lewis, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for their memory.

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