

2008 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 497

Offered February 27, 2008

Celebrating the life of First Lieutenant Benjamin J. Hall.

Patrons—Howell, W.J., Cole and Orrock; Senators: Houck and Stuart

WHEREAS, United States Army First Lieutenant Benjamin J. Hall, age 24, of Woodbridge, was killed in the line of duty on July 31, 2007, while valiantly serving his country during combat operations in the Chowkay Valley, Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, the second of four children, Ben Hall was the beloved son of Sarah and John Hall, a retired Army Colonel; graduated from C. D. Hylton High School in Woodbridge in 2001; and earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Michigan Technological University in 2005, where he was the top cadet in his ROTC unit; and

WHEREAS, trained as an Army Ranger, First Lieutenant Hall was a platoon leader of Delta Company of the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment (Airborne), 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team based in Vicenza, Italy; and

WHEREAS, deployed to Asadabad, Afghanistan, First Lieutenant Hall and his fellow soldiers were engaged in combat on a daily basis, and he died of wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his unit during combat operations in the Chowkay Valley on July 31, 2007; and

WHEREAS, before being deployed to Afghanistan in May 2007, First Lieutenant Hall returned to Fredericksburg from Vicenza to surprise his older sister and celebrate her wedding with family and friends; and

WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Hall will be fondly remembered as a "dynamic young man, who was outgoing and funny, but who never boasted," and he will be greatly missed by his parents, John and Sarah Hall; his two sisters, Katherine and Melissa, his brother Joe; and many other loving relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Hall's death is a reminder of the perils faced daily by the thousands of Americans who serve in our armed forces overseas and whose devotion to duty places them in harm's way; 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 a courageous and patriotic Virginian, First Lieutenant Benjamin J. Hall; 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 First Lieutenant Benjamin J. Hall as an expression of the high regard in which his memory is held by the members of the General Assembly and the citizens of Virginia.

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