

2010 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 476

Offered March 8, 2010

Celebrating the life of Omer Clyde Stone, Jr.

Patrons—Armstrong, Marshall, D.W. and Merricks; Senator: Reynolds

WHEREAS, Omer Clyde Stone, Jr., of Bassett, a respected citizen and an outstanding community supporter, died on September 13, 2009; and

WHEREAS, a native of Bassett, Omer Clyde "Redpole" Stone, Jr., was born on August 6, 1927, the son of the late Omer Clyde Stone, Sr., and Shelley Daniel Stone and brother to his late sisters, Mary and Estelle; and

WHEREAS, Omer Clyde Stone, Jr., greatly resembled Omer Clyde Stone, Sr., and junior inherited his nickname from his father, whose tall, slender frame, and bright red hair made him look like a red pole; and

WHEREAS, Redpole Stone bravely served his country in the United States Army in both Germany and Belgium from 1945 to 1947; and

WHEREAS, Redpole Stone was married to his one and only love, Lucy Edmonds Stone, and the couple owned and operated Redpole's North Bassett Café for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, the North Bassett Café's famous hot dogs were a tradition at the annual Bassett Heritage Festival, where all proceeds were donated to the Bassett Volunteer Fire Department, and Lucy and Redpole Stone would prepare the spicy chili and coleslaw ahead of time for 120 dozen chili dogs that were everybody's favorite; and

WHEREAS, Redpole Stone was the last living charter member of the Bassett Volunteer Fire Department, which was founded in 1953; he had served on the board of directors since 1962 and as assistant chief and then chief in the 1970s and was recognized as Henry County's Firefighter of the Year in 1999; and

WHEREAS, active in his community, Redpole Stone generously gave of his time and expertise to many civic organizations, including as a member of the Bassett Moose Lodge, American Legion, and Greenwing children's organization of Ducks Unlimited; and

WHEREAS, a devoted family man, Redpole Stone will be fondly remembered for his integrity and his goodwill toward others and dearly missed by his wife of 58 years, Lucy Edmonds Stone; his two daughters and sons-in-law, Vickie S. and Barry G. Helmstutler and Helen S. and William P. Boitnott; his three grandsons, Randall D. Helmstutler, Russell Stone Boitnott, and Peter Edmonds Boitnott; and numerous good friends and admirers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of a fine community leader and outstanding Virginian, Omer Clyde Stone, 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 Omer Clyde Stone, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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