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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 530

Offered January 12, 2011 Prefiled December 6, 2010

Celebrating the life of Dean Ridings.

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

WHEREAS, Dean Ridings, an admired police deputy from Spotsylvania County, died on June 19, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Dean Ridings is remembered for his outstanding performance as a law-enforcement officer and for his devotion to his family, community, and fellow officers; and

WHEREAS, a former United States Marine, Deputy Ridings brought years of exemplary experience to the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office when he joined the force in 2004; and

WHEREAS, committed to protecting and serving Virginia's citizens and enforcing the laws of the Commonwealth, Deputy Ridings was a dedicated and professional police officer, who was highly respected by his fellow law-enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, known for his ready smile and kind nature, Deputy Ridings was always willing to help out his fellow citizens, neighbors, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Ridings was a member of the National Rifle Association, Izaak Walton League, and the Virginia Sheriffs' Association; and

WHEREAS, an avid archer, Deputy Ridings enjoyed spending his free time outdoors with his sons and brothers; and

WHEREAS, a devoted family man, Dean Ridings will be greatly missed by his loving wife of 30 years, Anna; his sons, Gordon and Nicholas, and their families; and numerous other family members, friends, and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, the loss of Deputy Dean Ridings is tragic, not only for his family but also for his fellow law-enforcement officers and the citizens of the Commonwealth, and a reminder of the hazards our police officers and all first responders throughout the Commonwealth and the nation face; 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 an admired and devoted deputy, Dean Ridings; 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 Dean Ridings as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.