

2011 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 665

Offered January 12, 2011

Prefiled January 12, 2011

Celebrating the life of Charles Leonard Willis, Sr.

Patron—Jones

WHEREAS, Charles Leonard Willis, Sr., of Norfolk, a respected businessman, community volunteer, and outstanding citizen, died on September 29, 2010; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Virginia, Leonard Willis was born in The Hollow, a small mountain community in Patrick County; and

WHEREAS, Leonard Willis later moved to Portsmouth, where he met Loretta, his beautiful bride of 57 years; they moved to Suffolk in 1964, where they raised their three wonderful sons; and

WHEREAS, a hard-working student, Leonard Willis received a bachelor's degree from Old Dominion University and became a professional engineer; and

WHEREAS, Leonard Willis fulfilled his entrepreneurial ambitions by establishing his own business; he was well-known and respected as an expert in ship construction and repair and contracts negotiation; and

WHEREAS, in addition to devoting a great deal of time and effort to his successful business, Leonard Willis unselfishly supported his beloved community and enjoyed spending time with his family; and

WHEREAS, Leonard Willis generously gave of his time and talents in the community as past president of the Old Dominion Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, C.E. & H. Ruritan Club, and North Suffolk Rotary Club; he was also active in Cub Scout Pack 43 in Crittenden/Eclipse; and

WHEREAS, respected for his kind heart and wise words, Leonard Willis always looked for ways to support those in need and served as a mentor for many young men, encouraging them to excel in all their endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a devoted family man, Leonard Willis will be greatly missed by his loving wife, Loretta; children, Lenny, Larry, and Leslie and their families; mother, Iris; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly note with great sadness the loss of a respected community volunteer, businessman, and outstanding citizen of the Commonwealth, Charles Leonard Willis, Sr.; 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 Charles Leonard Willis, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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