

2011 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 778

Celebrating the life of Robert B. Smithwick.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 4, 2011
Agreed to by the Senate, February 10, 2011

WHEREAS, Robert B. Smithwick, a respected citizen and longtime Norfolk economic development director and beloved community leader, died on December 12, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Robert "Bob" Smithwick was born in Philadelphia and raised in Norfolk; he graduated from Maury High School and later, Elon College; and

WHEREAS, Bob Smithwick enjoyed a successful career of 33 years with Texaco before serving the Cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth; and

WHEREAS, Bob Smithwick's vision transformed downtown Norfolk as he urged the construction of the MacArthur Center and Harbor Park and attracted companies such as Nordstrom, CMA-CGM, Zim American Shipping Company, and USAA to the City; and

WHEREAS, Bob Smithwick's relentless efforts and executive experience were forces that made him a powerful voice in speaking with corporate America on behalf of the Cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth; and

WHEREAS, an innovative leader, Bob Smithwick initiated the Norfolk Ambassadors program, which recognized citizens who promoted new businesses for the City of Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, Bob Smithwick led efforts to develop Norfolk Commerce Park and Lake Wright Executive Center; and

WHEREAS, Bob Smithwick will be fondly remembered for his many contributions to the community and will be greatly missed by his wife of 60 years, Faye; his four children, Dori, David, Rob, and Amy and their spouses; nine grandchildren; two sisters; many nieces and nephews; and numerous friends and admirers; 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 outstanding Virginian, Robert B. Smithwick; 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 Robert B. Smithwick as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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