

2011 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 876

Offered February 14, 2011

Celebrating the life of Dr. Robert John Robertson, Jr.

Patrons—Purkey, Knight, Iaquinto, Stolle, Tata and Villanueva; Senators: Blevins, McWaters and Wagner

WHEREAS, Robert J. Robertson, Jr., M.D., an early advocate of coordinated, effective, and efficient emergency care to reduce the severity of injury and save lives, died on December 22, 2010, at Sentara Virginia Beach General Hospital, where he had practiced as a specialist in internal medicine and cardiology for over 40 years; and

WHEREAS, a native of Norfolk, Robert "Bobby" Robertson was a 1946 graduate of Maury High School and a 1950 graduate of Virginia Military Institute, where he was a member of the cavalry equestrian, wrestling, and lacrosse teams; he continued his studies at the University of Virginia, earning a master's degree in chemistry; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Robertson received his medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia, followed by a residency and cardiology fellowship at Emory University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Robertson returned to the Tidewater area, moving to Virginia Beach in 1962 to begin his medical practice and joining the medical staff of the General Hospital of Virginia Beach, which was then located at 25th and Arctic Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Robertson was instrumental in the establishment and building of Virginia Beach General Hospital at its current location and served as its first president of the medical staff; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Robertson participated in the establishment of the Tidewater Emergency Medical Service Council, served as its first president, remained an active director, and served as a representative on the Governor's EMS Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Robertson's contributions to emergency medicine both in the prehospital and emergency room environments are a lasting legacy for those who follow in his path; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Robertson had many varied interests outside the world of medicine; notably, he supported his children and grandchildren's equestrian events and helped establish the Virginia Pony Breeders Association; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Robertson will be greatly missed by his loving wife, June Hand-Decker Robertson; children, the Reverend Robert John Robertson III, Anne Randolph Schmudde, and Martha Bruce Lazar and their families; and numerous other family members, friends, and former patients; 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 Dr. Robert John Robertson, 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 Dr. Robert John Robertson, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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