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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 391

Offered January 20, 2011

*Celebrating the life of John DeWitt Whitlow.*

Patrons—Reynolds; Delegate: Armstrong

WHEREAS, John DeWitt Whitlow, a celebrated volunteer and American patriot, died on November 30, 2010; and

WHEREAS, known to friends and family as J.D., John Whitlow was born on March 5, 1923, to the late Carroll D. Whitlow and Virgie Mae Joyce Whitlow Wade in Martinsville; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Martinsville High School in 1941, John Whitlow enlisted in the United States Navy and served his country aboard the USS *Storm King* and the USS *Raby* until his honorable discharge on February 7, 1947; and

WHEREAS, a true American patriot, John Whitlow was awarded many honors including the Good Conduct Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Service ribbon with three stars, the Philippine Liberation Service ribbon with two stars, and the American Area Service ribbon; and

WHEREAS, a valued and respected employee, John Whitlow worked as a welder and maintenance supervisor for DuPont in Martinsville, retiring after a 33-year career; and

WHEREAS, having played baseball in high school, John Whitlow passed his great love for the sport on to countless children in the 25 years that he coached with the Martinsville Youth Pony Baseball League; and

WHEREAS, honored by the Virginia Recreation and Park Society in 1974 and the Martinsville Community Recreation Association in 1978, John Whitlow was recognized for his many years of service as a volunteer and for the wonderful contributions he made to the youth of Martinsville; and

WHEREAS, active in the Men's Bible Study classes, John Whitlow attended the First United Methodist Church of Martinsville in his youth and later joined Big A Church of Christ in Stuart; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his beloved wife, Mary Sue, and his sister, Vera, John Whitlow will be remembered fondly by his daughters, Susan and Cindy Shirley, his brother, Jimmy, and the many family members, friends, and neighbors whose lives he touched; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of John DeWitt Whitlow, celebrated volunteer and American patriot; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of John DeWitt Whitlow as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.