

2012 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 108

Offered January 17, 2012

Celebrating the life of Peter Davis Coe.

Patron—McWaters

WHEREAS, Peter Davis Coe, a charismatic business owner who helped introduce Tidewater residents to the tastes of premier food and wine while serving as an enthusiastic community and civic supporter, died on June 29, 2011; and

WHEREAS, a native of Connecticut, Peter Coe spent most of his youth in the Northeast, attending Westminster School in Simsbury and enjoying summers at Keewaydin Camp in Vermont; he also spent a brief time in England when his father was posted there as a special ambassador; and

WHEREAS, after attending Boston College, Peter Coe worked briefly in the banking and brass industries before relocating to Virginia Beach in the early 1970s, where he founded Taste Unlimited with a childhood friend; and

WHEREAS, a passionate gourmet, Peter Coe traveled around the world and in his own backyard in search of the best in foods and wines to bring to his customers, whether it was artisanal cheeses, decadent candies, or specialty coffees; and

WHEREAS, Peter Coe's customers relied on his discriminating taste and enjoyed the opportunity to learn more while attending his seasonal cooking classes and wine tastings at different store locations; and

WHEREAS, a savvy businessman, Peter Coe brought his extensive experience and expertise to a wider audience through his service on the board of the National Association for the Specialty Food Trade; and

WHEREAS, Peter Coe played a vital role in community and civic affairs, volunteering with several local organizations and serving as a founding board member of the Contemporary Arts Center, Tidewater Performing Arts Society, and the Chesapeake Bay Wine Classic; and

WHEREAS, Peter Coe's love of life manifested itself in all his endeavors, whether it was running with the bulls in Pamplona, driving his classic Triumph "the Grand Duchess," teaching a cooking class, or spending time with beloved family members and friends; and

WHEREAS, Peter Coe truly lived the good life and leaves behind many delightful memories for his daughter, Sabra, and her family; other family members; friends; and customers to cherish; 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 an admired Virginian, Peter Davis Coe; and, be it

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

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