

2014 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 348

Offered February 20, 2014

Celebrating the life of Bassam Khalil Abdallah.

Patrons—LeMunyon, Albo, Greason, Hugo, LaRock, Minchew and Ramadan

WHEREAS, Bassam Khalil Abdallah of Centreville, a devoted husband and father who immigrated to the United States as a young man and became a citizen in 1982, and an entrepreneur who founded Almas Jewelers, died on August 10, 2013; and

WHEREAS, a native of Beirut, Lebanon, and one of seven children, Bassam Abdallah moved to the United States in 1974 and earned a bachelor's degree in 1976 from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst; and

WHEREAS, Bassam Abdallah traveled to Canada in the summer of 1976 to serve as a translator at the Summer Olympic Games in Montreal; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, Bassam Abdallah became a member of a Masonic Lodge in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, joining at the Sublime level; it was an organization to which he was strongly attached; he was recognized for his 35 years as a Master Mason in March 2013; and

WHEREAS, Bassam Abdallah had an entrepreneurial spirit, starting his own business in 1991 with the opening of Almas Jewelers in Centreville; the store has provided the members of the community with quality products and excellent customer service since its inception; and

WHEREAS, Bassam Abdallah will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by his wife, three daughters, and many other family members and friends; 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 Bassam Khalil Abdallah of Centreville, a devoted husband and father who immigrated to this country when he was a young man and became a proud citizen of the United States and an entrepreneur who started Almas Jewelers; 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 Bassam Khalil Abdallah as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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