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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 39

Offered February 19, 2014

Celebrating the life of Scott Harper.

Patrons—Lewis and Alexander

WHEREAS, Scott Harper, a devoted husband and father, an award-winning journalist for *The Virginian-Pilot* newspaper in Norfolk, and to many people a dear friend whose enthusiasm and varied interests often captivated them, died on October 26, 2013; and

WHEREAS, a native of San Diego, Scott Harper had extensive journalism experience before starting work at *The Virginian-Pilot* as an environmental reporter; his writing was highly respected by conservationists and environmental organizations and he received many awards and recognitions; and

WHEREAS, Scott Harper graduated from Southern Methodist University and did graduate work at American University and the London School of Economics; he was a reporter in Texas and Maryland before moving to Virginia; and

WHEREAS, since he began his work at the Norfolk newspaper in 1994, Scott Harper spent much time writing about issues affecting the Chesapeake Bay, one of the Commonwealth's greatest natural resources; he is remembered for his clear explanations of often complex matters; and

WHEREAS, in covering the fast-changing Hampton Roads region, Scott Harper wrote about the challenges faced by officials and citizens as they worked to address the needs of an urban populace and at the same time stay aware of the surrounding fragile natural environment; and

WHEREAS, Scott Harper also wrote on topics as varied as the state's ancient volcanoes and a wild-horse auction, and he also had begun to investigate the use and potential of alternative energy sources, including wind energy and solar power; and

WHEREAS, Scott Harper's many interests included sports—he coached youth golf and basketball—film, time spent with friends, card games, music, and writing poetry; he also was a member of the West Ghent Civic League; and

WHEREAS, a voracious reader, Scott Harper enjoyed the works of Somerset Maugham, Ernest Hemingway, and Virginia Woolf; he also coordinated and taught a Junior Great Books course at W. H. Taylor Elementary School in Norfolk and was a member of the board of the school's PTA; and

WHEREAS, Scott Harper will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by his wife, Jane; children, Jackson, Natalie, and Wesley; and many other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of Virginia hereby note with great sadness the loss of Scott Harper, a devoted husband and father, an award-winning journalist, and a dear friend to many people; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Scott Harper as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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