

# 2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5060

Offered July 31, 2014

*Celebrating the life of Staff Sergeant David H. Stewart.*

Patrons—Stuart and Puller; Delegates: Cole, Howell, W.J. and LaRock

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant David H. Stewart of Stafford County, a respected platoon sergeant in the United States Marine Corps and beloved husband and father, made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty on June 20, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Stewart graduated from North Stafford High School and carried on a proud family tradition of military service, joining the United States Marine Corps Reserve in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Stewart was mobilized for active duty after the attacks on September 11, 2001, and deployed to Iraq from 2004 to 2005; he completed two additional tours in Iraq in 2006 and 2008 and in Afghanistan in 2013; and

WHEREAS, in April 2014, Staff Sergeant Stewart began his fifth tour in 10 years, deploying to Helmand Province, Afghanistan, as a platoon sergeant with 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Stewart was a capable leader at both squad and platoon levels, and he used his training as a combat engineer to detect and safeguard his fellow Marines from explosive devices; he also passed along his experience to younger Marines as a drill instructor between deployments; and

WHEREAS, throughout his 14-year military career, Staff Sergeant Stewart earned several awards and honors, including the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Award with Valor, and the Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, known for both his sense of humor and his commitment to honoring the principles and values of the United States Marine Corps, Staff Sergeant Stewart was an admired friend and mentor to many of his fellow Marines; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Stewart exemplified the integrity, bravery, and dedication to duty shown by the men and women of the United States Armed Forces throughout the world, and his sacrifice is a reminder of the dangers faced by United States service members on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Stewart will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by his beloved wife of 17 years, Kristine; children, Mackenzie and Marshall; and numerous other family members, friends, and fellow Marines; 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 Staff Sergeant David H. Stewart, a proud and patriotic member of the United States Marine Corps; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Staff Sergeant David H. Stewart as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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