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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 128

Offered January 26, 2016

*Celebrating the life of Carl Douglas Proffitt, Jr.*

Patrons—Deeds; Delegates: Bell, Robert B., Landes and Toscano

WHEREAS, Carl Douglas Proffitt, Jr., a decorated veteran of World War II, a proud Virginian, and a deeply respected member of the Charlottesville community, died on June 30, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Charlottesville, Carl "Chubby" Proffitt learned the value of hard work and responsibility at a young age when he left Lane High School during his senior year to help support his family amid the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of service to his country, Chubby Proffitt joined the Virginia National Guard in 1939; he became a technical sergeant in the United States Army when his unit was federalized in 1941; and

WHEREAS, Chubby Proffitt landed with the first wave of Allied troops at Omaha Beach during the D-Day invasion of Normandy, France, and distinguished himself throughout the campaign by his valorous actions; he earned numerous decorations, including the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, and the French Cross of War, and a battlefield commission to second lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, Chubby Proffitt later earned the Virginia Distinguished Service Medal, and his unit received a Presidential Unit Citation; in 2012, he was honored to receive the Legion of Honor, France's highest military decoration; and

WHEREAS, Chubby Proffitt dedicated much of his life to honoring the service and sacrifices of his fellow veterans; he attended the 55th anniversary of D-Day in France in 1999, frequently assisted World War II researchers, and gave presentations about the war to students at local schools; and

WHEREAS, after the war, Chubby Proffitt found employment with King & Roberts Wholesale, Inc., and worked his way up from salesman and truck driver to become a general manager; he retired in 1983 after an exceptional 37-year career; and

WHEREAS, working to strengthen and enhance the community, Chubby Proffitt was a longtime member of Widow's Sons' Masonic Lodge 60, American Legion Post 74, Falcon Club, Elks Lodge 389, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Chubby Proffitt was a lifelong fan of baseball; during World War II, he helped his team win the European Theater of Operations military baseball championship with a 33-0 record; later in life, he imparted his passion for the game to a new generation by supporting youth teams, and the fields at McIntire Park were named in his honor; and

WHEREAS, a man who lived his faith through his actions, Chubby Proffitt enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as a loyal congregant of Cherry Avenue Christian Church, where he was a member of the men's Bible school class; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his wife of 64 years, Ollie, Chubby Proffitt will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his sons, Carl III and Sterling, and their families and numerous other family members, friends, and fellow veterans; 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 Carl Douglas Proffitt, Jr., a proud veteran and an exemplar of the ideals of the Greatest Generation; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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