HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 739

Celebrating the life of James Early Wood.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 20, 2017 Agreed to by the Senate, January 26, 2017

WHEREAS, James Early Wood of Hanover County, a decorated veteran of World War II and a respected entrepreneur, died on November 25, 2016; and

WHEREAS, as a child of the Great Depression, J. Early Wood learned the value of hard work and responsibility at a young age; as a young man, he baked bread for the Continental Baking Company and became a route sales manager; and

WHEREAS, J. Early Wood joined many of the other young men of his generation in service to the nation during World War II as a member of the United States Army; he parachuted into France with the 101st Airborne Division during the D-Day invasion and helped hold the Allies' lines during the Battle of the Bulge; and

WHEREAS, wounded on D-Day and again near the end of the war, J. Early Wood received two Purple Hearts and earned a Bronze Star for his valorous actions; after his honorable military service, he returned to the Commonwealth to become a contributing member of the community; and

WHEREAS, J. Early Wood worked in the insurance business for Prudential for more than 20 years, and then served his fellow community members as an independent agent; later in life, he turned a hobby into a 40-year career when he opened J. Early Wood Golf Carts, an Ashland institution that he operated until 2015; and

WHEREAS, J. Early Wood will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Virginia; children, James and Lil, and their families; and numerous 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 James Early Wood, a respected veteran and entrepreneur in Hanover County; 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 James Early Wood as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.