

2017 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 420

Celebrating the life of Robert James Costen.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 22, 2017
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 2017

WHEREAS, Robert James Costen, a distinguished veteran, respected educator, and devoted spiritual leader in Chesapeake, died on June 6, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Robert "Bob" Costen 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 served during the post-war occupation of Germany on the staff of General Dwight D. Eisenhower and was a military policeman during the Nuremberg trials; and

WHEREAS, after his honorable military service, Bob Costen graduated from Bob Jones University in South Carolina and later received a master's degree from the Richmond Professional Institute; and

WHEREAS, as a teacher at Great Bridge High School and Maury High School for nearly 20 years, Bob Costen prepared students for success in higher education and careers and in becoming responsible citizens of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Bob Costen answered the call to ministry in 1969; he and his family traveled to the Bahamas, England, Scotland, France, Germany, and Switzerland as well as throughout the United States and Canada, in order to spread the word of the Lord and to help believers forge deep, personal connections with Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, Robert Costen will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his beloved wife of 62 years, Margaret; children, James, Robert, Timothy, and Ann, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; 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 Robert James Costen, a highly admired member of the Chesapeake community, who touched countless lives throughout the world as an educator and a missionary; and, be it

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

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