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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 287

Offered February 16, 2018

Celebrating the life of Gary David Burgess.

Patron—Kilgore

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WHEREAS, Gary David Burgess, a Vietnam veteran, first responder, entrepreneur, and respected member of the Southwest Virginia community, died on July 30, 2015; and

WHEREAS, born in Christian, West Virginia, Gary Burgess graduated from J.J. Kelly High School in Wise, then served the nation as a member of the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, Gary Burgess was assigned to Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas, where he served as a technical instructor and a cable splicing instructor; in 1968, he deployed to Pleiku, Vietnam, for one year; and

WHEREAS, after his honorable military service, Gary Burgess graduated from Mountain Empire Community College and worked for The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company for more than three decades, retiring as a buildings supervisor in 1996; and

WHEREAS, possessed of an entrepreneurial spirit, Gary Burgess was the founder and former president of Innovative Graphics & Design, Inc., a commercial printing business in Norton; and

WHEREAS, Gary Burgess helped ensure the well-being of community members as a life member of the Wise Rescue Squad, Inc., serving on the board of directors as well as an emergency medical technician instructor and an American Red Cross instructor; and

WHEREAS, Gary Burgess was active with the Freemasons, the Shriners, and the Scottish Rite, and he was a lifetime member of Disabled American Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Gary Burgess will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 46 years, Linda; children, David and Kelly, 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 Gary David Burgess; 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 Gary David Burgess as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.