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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1081

1
2 Offered February 18, 2019
3 *Celebrating the life of Fred Thomas Martin, Sr.*
4 _____

Patrons—Adams, L.R., Marshall and Poindexter; Senator: Stanley
5 _____

6 WHEREAS, Fred Thomas Martin, Sr., esteemed businessman and supporter of the City of
7 Martinsville, died on September 13, 2018; and
8 WHEREAS, Fred Martin was born in Bedford County and spent most of his life in Martinsville; he
9 grew up near the former American Furniture Company and worked on his family's farm, then served in
10 the Army Signal Corps during the Korean War before returning to work with American Furniture
11 Company; and
12 WHEREAS, Fred Martin moved up the ranks of American Furniture Company while acquiring
13 horses and cattle to develop the large farm that eventually took the form of Martin Stables; and
14 WHEREAS, in the 1960s, Fred Martin began working with several companies around the country
15 that sold custom-made parts, including glass and wrought iron components, to furniture companies in
16 Martinsville and Henry County; he also operated a furniture import business; and
17 WHEREAS, in the 1990s, as furniture manufacturing waned, Fred Martin entered into new business
18 ventures, buying buildings throughout Martinsville with the goal of reviving both commercial and
19 residential real estate in the area; at times he was able to help members of the community in need
20 through his projects; and
21 WHEREAS, Fred Martin will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Lowanda; his
22 children, Theresa, Freddie, and Tim, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends;
23 now, therefore, be it
24 RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby
25 note with great sadness the loss of Fred Thomas Martin, Sr., an esteemed businessman and community
26 leader in the City of Martinsville; and, be it
27 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution
28 for presentation to the family of Fred Thomas Martin, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's
29 respect for his memory.