

2020 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 35

Offered February 20, 2020

*Celebrating the life of Joseph Roland Wright, Sr.*

Patron—Lucas

WHEREAS, Joseph Roland Wright, Sr., who distinguished himself in the Portsmouth community as an honorable veteran, dedicated civil servant, and influential community activist, died on March 28, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Wright was born and raised in Portsmouth, where he was affectionately known by his friends and family as "Joe" or "Roland"; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Tidewater Community College, Joseph Wright served his country with honor and distinction for several years as a member of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, upon returning to civilian life, Joseph Wright worked tirelessly on behalf of his city as an employee with the United States Postal Service; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Wright was an active and engaged member of the Portsmouth community, building a legacy of commitment and service through his involvement in numerous local organizations and frequent participation in Portsmouth City Council meetings; and

WHEREAS, as president and treasurer of the Police-Community Relations Advisory Committee for the Cavalier Manor neighborhood, Joseph Wright strove to ensure the safety and security of his community, earning the nickname "the Mayor of Cavalier Manor"; and

WHEREAS, several fraternal organizations benefited from Joseph Wright's membership over the years, including the Shriners of Arabia Temple #12, whom he formerly served as an honorary past potentate, and the Mt. Gilead Alpha & Omega Lodge #46 of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, whom he served previously as worshipper master; and

WHEREAS, guided through life by his deep and abiding faith, Joseph Wright enjoyed worship and fellowship with his community as a longtime member of the First Baptist Church on Elm Avenue in Portsmouth, where he served as a trustee, Sunday school superintendent, and a member of the men's chorus; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Wright will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his loving wife of 63 years, Betty; his children, Joseph, Jr., LaDonna, and Angela, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of Virginia hereby note with great sadness the loss of Joseph Roland Wright, Sr., an honored veteran and esteemed postal worker who touched countless lives in Portsmouth as a community activist, mentor, and friend; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Joseph Roland Wright, Sr., as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect for his memory.

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