

2021 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 345

Offered February 1, 2021

Celebrating the life of Sigmund Edward Davidson.

Patrons—Edwards, Boysko, Howell, Ruff, Spruill and Stanley; Delegates: Adams, D.M., Ayala, Cole, M.L., Delaney, Heretick, Hope, Kory, Levine, Rasoul, Reid, Simonds and Ware

WHEREAS, Sigmund Edward Davidson, a respected veteran and successful business owner who made many contributions to the Roanoke community, died on March 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a native of Roanoke, Sigmund "Sig" Davidson was studying business at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania when Pearl Harbor was attacked in 1941; and

WHEREAS, Sig Davidson enlisted in the United States Army, but returned home to complete his schooling at Roanoke College and help with the family business, Davidsons Clothing, a men's clothier founded by his father in 1910; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, Sig Davidson deployed to the European theater of World War II as a mortar gunner; he became a squad leader after rising to the rank of sergeant and received a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for his meritorious actions in combat; and

WHEREAS, after his honorable military service, Sig Davidson began to expand Davidsons Clothing, ensuring that the store was well-poised to benefit from the post-war economic boom, and took an active leadership role in the local business community as a member of regional and state professional associations; and

WHEREAS, Sig Davidson volunteered his time as a steadfast leader and charismatic fundraiser to support a wide range of civic and social organizations in the region, and he used his position as a highly admired community leader to support desegregation efforts; and

WHEREAS, among many awards and accolades, Sig Davidson received the 1989 Governor's Award for Volunteering Excellence, the 1993 Retailer of the Year award from the Virginia Retail Merchants Association, the 1995 Outstanding Volunteer Fund Raiser Award from the National Society of Fund Raising Executives, and an honorary doctorate from Roanoke College; and

WHEREAS, Sig Davidson was a trusted mentor and friend who offered his wise counsel and savvy insights to countless individuals, touching many lives throughout the Roanoke community and beyond; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his beloved wife of 63 years, Harriet, Sig Davidson will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his children, Bonnie, Larry, and Steve, and their families; and many other family members, friends, and colleagues; 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 Sigmund Edward Davidson, a pillar of the Roanoke community; and, be it

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

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