

2023 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 499

Celebrating the life of Richard Wilson.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 16, 2023
Agreed to by the Senate, January 19, 2023

WHEREAS, Richard Wilson, a highly admired coach, teacher, and school administrator who touched the lives of countless young people in Norton, died on August 29, 2022; and

WHEREAS, a proud native of Norton, Richard "Stan" Wilson was a standout member of the John I. Burton High School basketball team, scoring a record 43 points in one game in 1962; he continued his education at Tusculum University, where he continued playing basketball, and subsequently earned a master's degree from East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, Stan Wilson returned to his alma mater, John I. Burton High School, and served as teacher, athletic director, assistant principal, and principal; he also enjoyed a distinguished career as head coach of the boys' basketball team; and

WHEREAS, Stan Wilson recorded 541 career wins as a coach, the most by any coach at the same school in Virginia High School League Class 1 programs; his teams won seven Region D championships, five Coal Classic championships, five regular season Lonesome Pine District titles, and 14 Lonesome Pine District tournament championships; and

WHEREAS, Stan Wilson coached 14 players who scored more than 1,000 career points, and he was a trusted mentor, who worked diligently to ensure that the student-athletes in his care achieved success in the classroom as well as on the basketball court; and

WHEREAS, among many awards and accolades for his careers as both a player and a coach, Stan Wilson was selected by the Virginia High School League as the Boys' Basketball Coach of the Year in 1993 and Athletic Director of the Year for the 1994-1995 school year; and

WHEREAS, Stan Wilson was also inducted into the halls of fame of John I. Burton High School and Tusculum University, and the gymnasium at John I. Burton High School was renamed in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Stan Wilson further served Norton City Schools in various capacities, including as food services director, transportation director, and truant officer; and

WHEREAS, Stan Wilson enjoyed fellowship and worship with the Norton community as a lifelong member of Norton United Methodist Church, where he held several leadership roles over the years; and

WHEREAS, Stan Wilson will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his beloved wife of 51 years, Linda; his daughters, Deidre and Jacque, 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 Richard Wilson; 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 Richard Wilson as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

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