

23104103D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 292

Offered February 7, 2023

Celebrating the life of Lieutenant Commander Kevin Raynard Williams, Sr., USN, Ret.

Patrons—Scott, P.A., Adams, D.M., Carr, Hope, Orrock, Rasoul and Ware

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Commander Kevin Raynard Williams, Sr., USN, Ret., an honorable veteran, esteemed member of the Internal Revenue Service, and beloved member of the Spotsylvania County community, died on August 8, 2019; and

WHEREAS, in his youth, Kevin Williams attained the rank of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America, notably becoming the first African American in the Fredericksburg area to achieve this award; he also attended Courtland High School in Spotsylvania County, where he was a member of the football team that won a state championship in the early 1980s; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Williams enlisted with the United States Navy in 1984 at the age of 17, working as a dental technician and as the leading petty officer of a command located in Parris Island, South Carolina, before returning to school in pursuit of an officer's commission; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Williams earned a bachelor's degree from what is now Park University and a master's degree from Regent University before ultimately graduating from the United States Navy's Officer Candidate School; he held the notable distinction of being a "mustang officer" for having begun his career as an enlisted service member before receiving his officer's commission; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Williams spent most of his 23-year naval career aboard aircraft carriers in defense of the nation and was deployed for combat tours during Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom before retiring in 2007; and

WHEREAS, following his service, Kevin Williams worked for many years as a human relations officer with the Internal Revenue Service and was recently trained for a position at Angelo Recovery and Counseling Services in Spotsylvania County to work alongside his wife, Dr. Bridgette Y. Williams, coaching veterans as they transition back to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Williams loved spending time with family and devoting himself to his hobbies, including founding an organization to represent the 23rd United States Colored Infantry Regiment at Civil War reenactments in the Fredericksburg area, playing golf, and woodworking; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Williams is fondly remembered and dearly missed by his loving wife, Bridgette; his children, Kevin, Jr., Marcellus, and Elijah, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Lieutenant Commander Kevin Raynard Williams, Sr., USN, Ret., a cherished member of the Spotsylvania County community whose service and dedication were an inspiration to all who knew him; 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 Lieutenant Commander Kevin Raynard Williams, Sr., USN, Ret., as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

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