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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 294

Offered January 30, 2023

Celebrating the life of Martin L. Williams.

Patrons—Cosgrove and DeSteph; Delegate: Brewer

WHEREAS, Martin L. Williams, a dedicated law-enforcement officer and a highly admired community leader in Chesapeake, died on December 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, a proud, lifelong resident of Chesapeake, Martin "Marty" Williams graduated from Western Branch High School, where he supported his classmates as the school mascot, Barney Bruin; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, Marty Williams fulfilled his longtime dream to protect and serve the community as a law-enforcement officer when he joined the Chesapeake Police Department; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his 25-year career, Marty Williams served as a patrol officer, a detective, and a sergeant, and in recognition of his outstanding achievements, he was selected as the Officer of the Year in 1984; and

WHEREAS, during his time as a detective, Marty Williams solved a high-profile murder case that became the subject of a book, was featured in two true crime television series, and will be covered with a special on CNN; and

WHEREAS, Marty Williams was a member of Fraternal Order of Police Chesapeake Lodge No. 9 and served as treasurer and president of the Fraternal Order of Police Virginia State Lodge after his retirement as a police officer; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of further service to the community, Marty Williams worked to enhance the quality of life in the region as a member of the Chesapeake Planning Commission for 11 years; he also served as the president and chair of the Virginia Charitable Gaming Council, overseeing more than \$1 million of donations to worthy causes; and

WHEREAS, Marty Williams was a passionate volunteer for many civic organizations and fundraisers; in later years he became president of a local animal shelter, Reba's Rescue; and

WHEREAS, Marty Williams enjoyed fellowship and worship with the community as a member of New Creation United Methodist Church, to which he generously provided technical support; and

WHEREAS, Marty Williams will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 28 years, Kathy; and numerous other family members and friends; 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 Martin L. Williams; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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