

2023 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 294

Celebrating the life of Martin L. Williams.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 2, 2023
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 6, 2023

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.

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