

1996 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 261

Offered January 22, 1996

On the deaths of Donald Ellis Curtis and Christine Gravely Curtis.

Patrons—Brickley and Parrish

WHEREAS, Donald Ellis Curtis and his wife, Christine Gravely Curtis, of Woodbridge died on January 7, 1995, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident; and

WHEREAS, both lifetime residents of Prince William County and both graduates of the old Occoquan Regional High School, Donald and Christine Curtis were widely known and admired for their love of and devotion to Prince William County; and

WHEREAS, a federal government employee with more than 40 years of service and a veteran of the Korean War, Donald Curtis was born in what was then rural Prince William County; and

WHEREAS, with roots in Prince William County that go back nearly 300 years, the Curtis family has traced its ancestry to Revolutionary War hero Henry "Lighthouse Harry" Lee; and

WHEREAS, Donald Curtis was the driving force in the conversion of the old Lee estate into what is now Leesylvania State Park; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Prince William County Historical Commission since 1976, and for several years its chairman, Donald Curtis published two books on local history, one a collection of essays and the other an account of a local family's experiences during the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, through their lifelong affection for the people and places of Prince William County and through their efforts to preserve the rich history of the county, Donald and Christine Curtis leave a lasting legacy of service to their community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly note with sadness the passing of Donald Ellis Curtis and Christine Gravely Curtis; 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 Donald and Christine Curtis as an expression of the great respect in which their memories are held by the members of the General Assembly.

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