

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 303

Offered January 31, 1996

On the death of Walter Wheaton, Jr.

Patrons—Woodrum, Cranwell and Thomas; Senator: Edwards

Consent to introduce

WHEREAS, Walter Wheaton, Jr., a successful Roanoke businessman and two-term member of the Virginia Human Rights Council, died on January 15, 1996; and

WHEREAS, a veteran of both the U.S. Army and the U.S. Navy, Walter Wheaton retired in 1973 as a major in the Army Reserves; and

WHEREAS, the owner of W. L. Wheaton Plumbing & Heating for 44 years, Walter Wheaton felt a strong responsibility to his community, which he served in a number of ways; and

WHEREAS, Walter Wheaton was appointed by Governor Gerald Baliles to the Human Rights Council, served on the Roanoke Board of Zoning Appeals, and volunteered to work with young people at the YMCA Family Center; and

WHEREAS, long active in the First Baptist Church, Walter Wheaton was named Father of the Year in 1977, served as superintendent and teacher at the Sunday school, and served on the board of trustees for 45 years; and

WHEREAS, Walter Wheaton was recognized as Black Businessman of the Year by the Roanoke chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in 1990; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly mourn the passing of an exceptional citizen of Roanoke, Walter Wheaton, Jr.; 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 Walter Wheaton, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.