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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 116

Offered February 14, 2022

*Celebrating the life of Stewart Woodruff Bentley, Sr.*

Patrons—Petersen; Delegate: Keam

WHEREAS, Stewart Woodruff Bentley, Sr., an honorable veteran and beloved member of the Vienna and Charleston, South Carolina, communities, died on April 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Stewart "Woody" Bentley enlisted with the United States Army in 1958 and, after graduating from George Washington University, was commissioned in the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, Woody Bentley began his career with the United States Air Force as a missile officer before transferring to the United States Air Force Office of Special Investigations, a posting that would entail six years in Germany and one in Korea during the height of the Cold War; and

WHEREAS, Woody Bentley was actively involved in the community through his membership with the Rotary Club of Vienna, serving as its Rotary Foundation chairman and helping to organize the organization's ViVa! Vienna! event; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his considerable efforts on behalf of the Rotary Club of Vienna, Woody Bentley was honored by the mayor of Vienna, Laurie DiRocco, during an event at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department on April 17, 2018; and

WHEREAS, with great concern for the health and well-being of young people, Woody Bentley also served as a scoutmaster with the Boy Scouts of America and coached soccer; and

WHEREAS, Woody Bentley was notably affiliated in his lifetime with the Bolling Family Association, with whom he served as president, and the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, including its auxiliaries the National Sojourners and Heroes of '76; and

WHEREAS, guided throughout his life by his faith, Woody Bentley enjoyed worship and fellowship with his church community while serving in the vestry and participating in prison ministries; and

WHEREAS, Woody Bentley will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his loving wife of 59 years, Claire; his children; 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 Stewart Woodruff Bentley, Sr., a distinguished veteran whose legacy of service is an inspiration to all who knew him; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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