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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 128

Offered February 16, 2022

*Celebrating the life of Michael Eugene Ruckman, Jr.*

Patrons—Obenshain; Delegate: Wilt

WHEREAS, Michael Eugene Ruckman, Jr., an esteemed educator with Harrisonburg Public Schools and a beloved member of the Bridgewater community, died on November 2, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ruckman graduated from Fort Defiance High School, where he won the Virginia High School League Valley District individual championship in golf twice and received Athlete of the Year honors in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ruckman earned a degree from James Madison University in 1991 and remained an avid fan of the university's sports programs throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ruckman served Harrisonburg Public Schools by teaching physical education at Waterman Elementary School for 29 years, contributing in meaningful ways to the growth and development of an untold number of young people; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ruckman's commitment to area youth also manifested itself through his efforts as a high school basketball referee and as coach of the Harrisonburg High School golf team, which he led to three regional titles and a state championship over his 25-year tenure; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his past accomplishments and years of service, Michael Ruckman was inducted in the Harrisonburg High School hall of fame in 2019; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ruckman was guided throughout his life by his faith and enjoyed worship and fellowship with his community at Mill Creek Church of the Brethren in Port Republic for many years; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ruckman will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his daughter, Amanda, and her family; his parents, Michael, Sr., and Rebecca; 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 Michael Eugene Ruckman, Jr., a cherished member of the Bridgewater and Harrisonburg communities whose kindness and generosity touched countless lives; and, be it

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

INTRODUCED

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