

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 68

By Littleton

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Charles Ray Williams of Spring Hill.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Charles Ray Williams of Spring Hill; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Charles Williams was born on June 12, 1942, and adopted by Reverend Darnell and Nora Williams, becoming the oldest of their seven children; and

WHEREAS, in 1959, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he served with acumen and alacrity and earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, following the completion of his initial military tenure, Mr. Williams worked as a police officer and as a machinist for Brooks Machine Company (BMC) in Columbia. He worked for BMC for more than twenty years, during which time he made parts that would be used for the Apollo Missions, the Moon Rover, and the Challenger space shuttle; and

WHEREAS, in the late 1960s, Charles Williams reenlisted in the military, this time in the Army and later the Tennessee National Guard. While serving, he was stationed at Guantanamo Bay during the Cuban Missile Crisis; in Japan, the Philippines, and Germany during the Vietnam and Cold wars; and in Saudi Arabia during the Persian Gulf War, eventually rising to the rank of E-9 over the span of thirty-eight years; and

WHEREAS, a skilled marksman, he was a member of the National Pistol Team, where he ranked in the top ten nationally, and he also loved spending time outdoors fishing, hunting, and camping; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Vickie Lynn Williams, and was a proud father, grandfather, and great-grandfather; and

WHEREAS, Charles Williams leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Charles Ray Williams, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Williams.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.