

No. R-299. House concurrent resolution in memory of former Windsor Fire Chief Bruce W. Stearns.

(H.C.R.216)

Offered by: Representatives Sweaney of Windsor and Bartholomew of Hartland

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack, and Nitka

Whereas, Bruce Stearns was a leading son of Windsor, with enduring ties to his hometown, and

Whereas, he was born in 1941 and graduated from Windsor High School, and

Whereas, Bruce Stearns served in the U.S. Navy during the Cuban Missile Crisis and was stationed on the U.S.S. Wasp, and

Whereas, after his honorable military discharge, Bruce Stearns returned home to Windsor and was employed as a correctional officer at the former Vermont State Prison, and

Whereas, for 39 years, Bruce Stearns was a member in good standing of the Windsor Fire Department, and

Whereas, he was a skilled firefighter, who advanced to the rank of deputy chief, a position he held for 21 years, and

Whereas, Bruce Stearns's service as deputy fire chief impressed his colleagues and town officials, and he was promoted to the office of fire chief, and served with distinction for five years, and

Whereas, this exemplary firefighter served as a mentor to his more junior colleagues, and

Whereas, Bruce Stearns' emergency response skills were well applied during his parallel service as an EMT with the Windsor Ambulance Service, and

Whereas, outside his professional life, Bruce Stearns had belonged to the Windsor Elks Lodge, enjoyed hunting and fishing, and being with his family, especially his grandchildren, and

Whereas, on January 14, 2014, Bruce Stearns died at age 72, and the town of Windsor expressed a fond farewell with a full honor guard of firefighters and equipment at his funeral, and

Whereas, his survivors include his wife, Sandra, children, Carol and Steven, four grandchildren, and sister, Nancy, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its condolences to the family of former Windsor Fire Chief Bruce Stearns, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Sandra Stearns in Windsor and to the Windsor Fire Department.