

**2026 SESSION**

**ENROLLED**

**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 234**

*Celebrating the life of Emmett M. Burke, Jr.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 4, 2026

WHEREAS, Emmett M. Burke, Jr., a respected entrepreneur and devoted community leader in Richmond, died on February 5, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Emmett Burke, affectionately known to family and friends as “Spike,” grew up in Richmond and graduated from Armstrong High School, where he excelled in athletics; and

WHEREAS, Emmett Burke continued his education at what is now Virginia State University, until he was drafted into the United States Army; he served his country with honor and rose to the rank of sergeant; and

WHEREAS, Emmett Burke returned to the Commonwealth after his military service and pursued a career in retail, working as an operations manager for the Thalhimers department store chain and for Carter Hawley Hale Stores, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Emmett Burke ultimately established Burke's Painting and served the community as a business owner until his passing; and

WHEREAS, Emmett Burke was an active volunteer who worked diligently to enhance the quality of life in Richmond and give back to those in need; and

WHEREAS, Emmett Burke will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 43 years, Cheryl; his sons, Emmett and Edmund, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Emmett M. Burke, Jr., a highly admired member of the Richmond community; 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 Emmett M. Burke, Jr., as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

**ENROLLED**

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