

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 744

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Charles T. "Thad" Herndon III of Johnson City.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Charles T. "Thad" Herndon III; and

WHEREAS, Thad Herndon 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, born in Kingsport to the late Charles T. Herndon, Jr., and Adele Wheatley Herndon, Thad Herndon nobly served his country in World War II as a finance officer for nearly four years and retired from the United States Army Reserve at the rank of colonel; and

WHEREAS, after earning his Bachelor of Arts degree from Vanderbilt University and his law degree from the University of Virginia, Mr. Herndon began practicing law in Johnson City in 1947 with the firm of Simmonds and Bowman; he remained with that firm for nearly fifty years; and

WHEREAS, even after his retirement, Thad Herndon remained an integral part of his profession, serving as counsel to the firm of Herndon, Coleman, Brading, & McKee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Herndon served as a member of the Washington County and American Bar Associations and served in both state and federal courts; he also served as a trustee of Cannon Memorial Hospital in Banner Elk, North Carolina, and as a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers, the National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel, and the Tennessee Board of Professional Responsibility by appointment of the Tennessee Supreme Court for a period of six years; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Mr. Herndon was honored as one of the six outstanding hospital trustees for the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, an involved member of his community, Mr. Herndon served as the director of the Chamber of Commerce and as a member of the Rotary Club and the Hurstleigh Club; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Herndon was an active and devout member of the First Presbyterian Church, which he served faithfully for many years as ordained elder and, later, elder emeritus; he also taught Sunday school and served for twenty-five years as the teacher of the Brotherhood Bible Class; and

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

WHEREAS, Mr. Herndon enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of sixty-seven years, Mary Gordon Simmonds Herndon. He will be sorely missed by his son, Charles T. Herndon IV, and his wife, Ann; his daughter, Rebecca Adele Herndon; his grandchildren and their spouses, Kristy Herndon and Olen Haynes, Gale Haynes, Jr., Holly Rebecca Herndon and Mathew Dryhurst, Frank Thaddeus and Tiffany London, and Charles Jason London; his great-grandchildren, Olen Gale Haynes III, Lily Anna Haynes, and Leslie Adele London; his sister, Mrs. Jeanie Venable; and his nieces and a nephew; and

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

WHEREAS, it is fitting that 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 SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Charles T. "Thad" Herndon III, 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. Herndon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.