

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR JOSHUA P. DARDEN JR.

WHEREAS, Joshua P. Darden Jr. of Norfolk, Virginia, took his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia in 1958, where he was the Student Council president, a lacrosse player, and a Lawn resident; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darden, after a year of service in the U.S. Army as a paratrooper and artillery officer, returned to Norfolk to work at his father's auto dealership, of which he would later become president, and subsequently expand to ten dealerships as part of Colonial Auto Group; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darden became president of Darden Properties, Inc., a commercial real estate firm, in 1995; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darden believed in the power of philanthropy and was adept at raising money for good causes, as evidenced by his co-founding of the ACCESS College Foundation to help low income students locate available financial aid; launching the CIVIC Leadership Institute to train regional leaders in the non-profit sector; and his work as chair of the Norfolk Foundation, including a successful campaign to build a Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, Josh Darden was dedicated to the well-being of his beloved alma mater, the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darden was appointed to the Board of Visitors in 1982, and reappointed in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darden served as Rector of the University from 1987 to 1990; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darden spearheaded and chaired the first four years of the campaign for the University of Virginia that raised over one billion dollars in seven years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darden sat as a member on the board of The University of Virginia's College at Wise; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darden's service to his community, the University, and the Commonwealth of Virginia has been recognized through numerous awards, including Norfolk's First Citizen; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darden provided extraordinary leadership and vision to every task set before him, without the desire for recognition, but with the intention of service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darden died in Virginia Beach on January 22, 2014;

RESOLVED, the Board of Visitors recognizes the life of Joshua P. Darden Jr., including the exceptional contributions to the University of Virginia and its College at Wise, and extends its condolences to his wife, Betty, his children Holley and Audrey, other family members, and to his many friends.