

CHAPTER 92**(HJR 81)**

A JOINT RESOLUTION naming the "Trooper Johnny Edrington Memorial Highway" in Taylor County.

WHEREAS, Johnny Edrington was born on September 7, 1954, the son of Jack Edrington and the late Patty Madsen Edrington; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Edrington was a native of Taylor County, graduated from Campbellsville High School, and attended Campbellsville College before joining the Army in 1973; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Edrington served his country in uniform as a military policeman and received an honorable discharge from the Army in 1976; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Edrington continued to protect and serve the citizens of Taylor County after returning home from military service, as a police officer with the Campbellsville and Taylor County Metro Police Departments; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Edrington, who had long admired the Kentucky State Police, fulfilled a dream when he joined their ranks and graduated from the State Police Academy in 1985; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Johnny Edrington's first assignment was to the London Post, an assignment he grew to love, turning down offers to transfer; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Johnny Edrington was held in the highest regard by his peers in the Kentucky State Police, who said of him: "He was the ideal trooper" and "You could depend on him in tight situations"; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Johnny Edrington received numerous commendations, including the State Police Meritorious Service Award in 1987, which he earned for stopping an armed fugitive who had killed a sheriff's deputy in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Johnny Edrington, who served and protected the citizens of this Commonwealth until his last breath, was killed in the line of duty December 20, 1988, during a traffic stop in Laurel County, crossing that bourne from which no earthly traveler returns; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Edrington's death left an empty space in the hearts of his parents, his three sisters, his bride of five months, Diane, and the entire Taylor County community; and

WHEREAS, the "Thin Gray Line" of the Kentucky State Police remains mournful to this day over the senseless loss of their beloved comrade; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Edrington's wife, Diane, who was five months pregnant at the time of his death, later gave birth to his daughter, Johnna Callie Edrington, who was never rocked to sleep in her father's arms and to this day carries with her only pictures and stories of a father she has never known; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that we memorialize this valiant son of the Commonwealth, who gave his life in the service and protection of its citizens, no matter how insignificant our actions are in repayment for his heroism and bravery;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. The Transportation Cabinet is directed to name the section of United States Route 68 which runs through Taylor County the "Trooper Johnny Edrington Memorial Highway."

Section 2. The Transportation Cabinet shall erect signs identifying the "Trooper Johnny Edrington Memorial Highway" within thirty days of the effective date of this Resolution at each end of the route specified in Section 1 of this Resolution, and at appropriate intervals in between.

Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall transmit two copies of this Resolution to Chief William Cassell, Campbellsville Police Department, 100 Terri Street, Campbellsville, KY 42718, who shall then transmit one copy to Johnna Callie Edrington.

Approved March 15, 2001