

A RESOLUTION adjourning the House of Representatives in loving memory and honor of Captain Matthew David Roland of the United States Air Force.

With deepest respect and admiration, we pay homage and tribute to Captain Matthew David Roland and pause in silent reverence for his soul.

WHEREAS, Captain Matthew David Roland was born on December 24, 1987, and he traversed these earthly bounds on August 26, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Captain Matthew David Roland was the beloved son of Colonel (Retired) USAF Mark and Barbara Roland, the brother of Erica Roland, uncle of Willamina Roland, and grandson of Dr. and Mrs. Earl Roland, Rita Thomas, and the late Richard Baugh; and

WHEREAS, Captain Matthew David Roland attended Lexington Catholic High School before entering the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aeronautical Engineering in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Captain Matthew David Roland was a special tactics officer assigned to the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron, 720th Special Tactics Group, 24th Special Operations Wing, Air Force Special Operations Command, Hurlburth Field, Florida. He directed employment of Special Tactics Airmen to integrate, synchronize, and control air and space power. Captain Roland supervised real-world tasking and combat preparedness training for a 35 member team. He directed and managed the development of long-range training goals and plans focused on mission-essential, war-time tasks; and

WHEREAS, the life of Captain Matthew David Roland ended prematurely in Afghanistan when he died from wounds received in combat at a checkpoint near Camp Antonik, Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, Captain Matthew David Roland's awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on

Terrorism Service Medal, the Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border, the Air Force Longevity Service Award, the Air Force Training Ribbon, and the NATO Medal; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has the highest respect for Captain Matthew David Roland and is deeply grateful for the ultimate sacrifice he made for the freedom of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the passing of Captain Matthew David Roland has left a void that cannot be filled, and he is mourned across the length and breadth of the Commonwealth;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. The House of Representatives does hereby express its profound sense of gratitude for the service and sacrifice made by Captain Matthew David Roland and extends to his family and many friends its most heartfelt sympathy.

➔Section 2. When the House of Representatives adjourns this day, it does so in loving memory and honor of Captain Matthew David Roland.

➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit two copies of this Resolution to Colonel (Retired) USAF Mark and Barbara Roland at 732 Old Mill Lane, Lexington, Kentucky 40514.