

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1997**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1243\***

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Sponsors: Representatives McMahan; Aldridge, Brawley, Buchanan, Daughtry, Dockham, Esposito, Goodwin, Holmes, Miner, Neely, Russell, Sherrill, Thompson, and C. Wilson.

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Referred to: Rules, Calendar and Operations of the House.

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July 29, 1997

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF CHARLES  
2 KURALT.

3       Whereas, Charles Bishop Kuralt was born in Wilmington, North Carolina, on  
4 September 10, 1934, to Wallace Hamilton Kuralt and Ina Bishop Kuralt; and

5       Whereas, Charles Kuralt spent his childhood years in the City of Charlotte  
6 where his mother was a schoolteacher and his father, a social worker, served for 28  
7 years as director of Mecklenburg County's public welfare; and

8       Whereas, Charles Kuralt excelled as a student at the University of North  
9 Carolina at Chapel Hill, serving as editor of The Daily Tar Heel and graduating with a  
10 bachelors degree in 1955; and

11       Whereas, following graduation from college, Charles Kuralt worked for the  
12 Charlotte News and in 1956, received the Ernie Pyle Memorial Award for his well-  
13 crafted and stylish writing; and

14       Whereas, in 1957, Charles Kuralt joined Columbia Broadcasting System  
15 (CBS) as a writer and in 1959, at the age of 24, became the youngest person to be  
16 named a news correspondent at CBS; and

17       Whereas, for the next several years, Charles Kuralt completed various  
18 assignments for CBS, including covering the Vietnam War and other news stories from  
19 various locations throughout the world, and serving as the first host of the CBS prime  
20 time series, "Eyewitness", as the CBS Latin American Correspondent, and as the Chief  
21 West Coast Correspondent; and

1           Whereas, after many years of masterful news reporting, Charles Kuralt began  
2 his acclaimed "On the Road" series, as part of "The CBS Evening News" in 1967; and

3           Whereas, for the next 12 years, Charles Kuralt traveled the highways and  
4 byways of the United States searching for stories that represented the ordinary  
5 American; and

6           Whereas, on January 28, 1979, Charles Kuralt began his "Sunday  
7 Morning" series, and for the next 15 years, warmed the hearts of millions of viewers  
8 across the nation each Sunday morning with 90 minutes of wonderful stories and scenes  
9 from all over the United States; and

10          Whereas, after a 37-year career at CBS, Charles Kuralt retired on April 3,  
11 1994; and

12          Whereas, Charles Kuralt was the author of six books; and

13          Whereas, Charles Kuralt received numerous awards and recognitions,  
14 including 12 Emmy Awards and three Peabody Awards and was inducted into the North  
15 Carolina Journalism Hall of Fame in 1981; and

16          Whereas, despite his fame, Charles Kuralt never forgot his beloved home  
17 state nor his alma mater, which he often assisted with fund-raising projects; and

18          Whereas, in 1995, Charles Kuralt served as the speaker for the dedication of  
19 the Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building, which is named for him and houses the School of  
20 Social Work, on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and

21          Whereas, Charles Kuralt died on July 4, 1997; and

22          Whereas, Charles Kuralt is survived by his wife, Suzanna "Petie" Kuralt; his  
23 daughters, Lisa White and Susan Bowers; a brother, Wallace Kuralt, Jr., a sister,  
24 Catherine Harris; and two grandchildren; and

25          Whereas, Charles Kuralt possessed a peculiar insight that enabled him to  
26 contribute substantially and effectively to the improvement and betterment of the world  
27 around him, enriching the lives of those with whom he was associated and came in  
28 contact; and

29          Whereas, in the passing of Charles Kuralt, North Carolina has lost one of its  
30 most beloved, admired, and respected native sons; Now, therefore,

31 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

32          Section 1. The General Assembly honors the life and memory of Charles  
33 Bishop Kuralt and expresses its gratitude and appreciation of this State and its citizens  
34 for his life and service.

35          Section 2. The General Assembly expresses its deep sorrow to the family and  
36 friends of Charles Bishop Kuralt for the loss of a beloved husband, father, and a true  
37 friend.

38          Section 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this  
39 resolution to the family of Charles Kuralt.

40          Section 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.