

At the regular meeting of the Campbell County Board of Supervisors held on the 7th day of February 2023 in the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room of the Haberer Building, Rustburg, Virginia, on motion of Supervisor Watts, the following resolution was adopted:

JUDGE J. SAMUEL JOHNSTON, JR. MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

WHEREAS, Retired Judge J. Samuel Johnston, Jr. served Campbell County with great distinction as a Campbell County District and Circuit Court Judge from 1977 until his retirement on June 1, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Judge Johnston received his bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama and a law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law; and

WHEREAS, after practicing law for five years was appointed a judge of the Campbell County General District Court at the age of 30, making him the youngest Judge in the State; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, Judge Johnston was named Judge of the Campbell County Circuit Court as the youngest Circuit Court Judge in Virginia, where he presided over hundreds of trials that impacted thousands of lives and was known for his thoughtfulness, fairness and commitment to justice; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as the Circuit Court Judge advocated for a new courthouse to not only protect victims and witnesses in criminal cases, but to have the proper facilities to conduct fair and audible hearings and trials, and a new Courthouse was dedicated on June 20, 1991; and

WHEREAS, following retirement Judge Johnston remained active in the legal community as a substitute Judge for the 24th Judicial Circuit, participating in a statewide mediation group, performing numerous speaking engagements where he served as inspiration to other Judges and attorneys and authoring a book entitled "Why Judges Wear Robes," a humorous account of life in the courtroom; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 the Campbell County Board of Supervisors authorized staff to work with the Virginia Department of Transportation and local Virginia delegation to have a portion of Route 501 in Campbell County dedicated to Judge J. Samuel Johnston, Jr., but at that time Virginia Code did not allow naming a road for a living person; and

WHEREAS, Judge Johnston passed away on December 10, 2022, at the age of 76.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Campbell County Board of Supervisors in accordance with Section 33.2-213 of the Code of Virginia respectfully requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Virginia Department of Transportation formally name a section of Route 501 from South Lynchburg City Limits to the east Route 24 intersection for a total of 7.96 miles the **Judge J. Samuel Johnston Memorial Highway** in recognition of Judge Johnston's faithfulness and dedication to the citizens of Campbell County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Campbell County Board of Supervisors acknowledges that the Campbell County Board of Supervisors would be responsible to the Virginia Department of Transportation for the costs associated with producing, placing and maintaining the signage associated with the request.

The vote was: Aye:

Nay:

Absent: