

A Resolution Honoring and Affirming the Enduring Value of a Virginia Military Institute Education

KNOW ALL GOOD AND FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF VMI:

WHEREAS the VMI Class of 1973 entered the hallowed grounds of its alma mater in August, 1969, under the tutelage of their dykes of the Class of 1970, and issued forth through limits gates in May of 1973, transformed from naïve adolescents into young men, citizen-soldiers prepared to serve the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia in times of peril, and,

WHEREAS, the Class of 1973 has enjoyed a half-century in which to evaluate the benefits from the education, character development, and leadership training of the Institute, and to live and test the value of its educational experience in a changing and challenging world:

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED,

That the enduring value of a VMI education – the creation of honorable youths pressing up the hill of science with noble emulation – is alive and well in Lexington, Virginia today, as it was in our time, undiminished, based upon the exact principles it was founded upon in 1839.

That the VMI man or woman is prepared, by virtue of education, character development, and leadership training, to compete and win in any endeavor.

That VMI stands as a bulwark against a chaotic world of mediocracy, educating for a world of accelerating change and intense challenges, while providing a foundation of honor, service, and gentility that creates fair specimens of its graduates.

That VMI men and women confront change, unafraid to debate, discuss, disagree, and engage in passionate discourse, but resolve to conduct such dialogue with dignity and respect.

That alumni and supporters recognize the VMI Board of Visitors and VMI Superintendent as transparent and accountable stewards of the Institute, and expect them to act accordingly. We applaud those called to serve and offer our prayer and support that they may diligently and wisely serve our common interest.

That VMI graduates are a singular fellowship of like-experienced alumni celebrating differences, applauding opportunity, and unabashedly welcoming all who wear our ring.

That while VMI graduates are competitive and their individual love for this great institution may differ, we carefully and courteously consider the views of our community, and move forward together, bound by our shared experience.

That when VMI alumni disagree, we do so inside our unique bond, at our own campfires, and within our own councils of war. We are one brotherhood/sisterhood, one fight, one Institute, bound by our historic legacy and stronger together — dedicated to preserving and protecting our traditions and the values we have lived.

That the Class of 1973 believes a Virginia Military Institute education will continue to be synonymous with honor, duty, and excellence, and that VMI-trained leadership is essential to our United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

God bless the Virginia Military Institute Class of 1973 and all those who love our Institute.

THIS RESOLUTION IS OFFERED UPON THE OCCASION OF OUR
FIFTIETH REUNION, SWORN TO AND WITNESSED BY
THESE MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 1973