



WE BELIEVE IN EQUALITY, OPPORTUNITY, AND PROSPERITY FOR ALL.

## **Resolution In Honor and Memory of Charles M. Johnson, World War II Veteran And North Carolina Democrat**

**WHEREAS**, Charles Johnson of Nash County was born in Johnston County in 1921 and dedicated himself and his life to freedom and duty. One way he exhibited that dedication was his active commitment and participation in the mission of the North Carolina Democratic Party;

**WHEREAS**, before then he volunteered for military service in World War 2 in the US Army Air Corps in the field of electronics and radar, and was one of a special group of enlisted chosen to continue their education at the University of Geneva in Switzerland. For over seven decades post-war Charles remained a faithful, lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and the American Legion;

**WHEREAS**, a long-time friend of thousands of Democrats statewide over the years, Charles dutifully served as a member of the NCDP State Executive Committee and NCDP Executive Council, and was elected as a delegate to many county, district, State, and national conventions over the decades. For example, he remained in continuous service on the executive and finance committees of his local and the state Democratic Party since 1978. Further, he was elected a NC delegate to the Democratic National Conventions in 1988, 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, and 2012;

**WHEREAS**, most Democrats remember Charles for two things: His decades of service as Chairman of the Party's Sustaining Fund (and membership on the NCDP Executive Council) and as the World War 2 veteran who regularly led our conventions and State meetings in the Pledge of Allegiance. His patriotism and love of our Country resounded through every word of the Pledge;

**WHEREAS**, Charles also believed in the power of public education and public investments, as well as the values of hard work, duty, and pursuing opportunities, justice and equality for all. His life was a testament to those goals. For example, Charles served on the Nash County Board of Education in the 1960s and for many years served on the board of trustees for Nash Community College, an institution he helped create and for its students he established multiple scholarships;

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of his lifetime of unselfish contributions and service - including a 40 year career as a State employee with the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources - then-Governor Beverly Perdue bestowed upon him the Order of the Longleaf Pine, one of the highest honors the Governor can bestow on a North Carolina resident;



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**WHEREAS**, as he entered his 99th year, his dedication and willingness to continue his active participation in NCDP events inspired us all. Recently Governor Roy Cooper appointed Charles Johnson to the Council on Aging;

**WHEREAS**, Charles passed away on December 11, 2020; and,

**WHEREAS**, like all who knew him, the NC Democratic Party will miss Charles Johnson's ever-cheerful smile and great insights and tireless contributions to making our State better for future generations.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the North Carolina Democratic Party Executive Council hereby considers all of the above and unanimously adopts pass a memorial resolution thanking Charles Johnson, and honoring the service and legacy of Charles Johnson.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, and on behalf of the many friends and admirers of this great American, the NC Democratic Party and its officers and Executive Council today joins the family, loved ones, and friends of Charles Johnson in mourning our loss and celebrating his life.

This the 21st day of December, 2020.

**This Resolution Was Presented And Passed By The State Executive Council Of  
The North Carolina Democratic Party on December 21, 2020**