



**A RESOLUTION
OF THE
ROTARY CLUB OF NORFOLK, VA**

IN MEMORY OF WELLS GRESHAM

WHEREAS, THE MEMBERS OF THE NORFOLK ROTARY CLUB, STANDING IN THE SIGHT OF GOD AND EACH OTHER, DO THIS DAY PAY TRIBUTE TO OUR DEPARTED FRIEND AND FELLOW ROTARIAN, WELLS GRESHAM.

BORN IN NORFOLK TO A FAMILY RICH IN SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, WELLS PURSUED HIS EDUCATION AT MAURY HIGH SCHOOL, THE PREDECESSOR OF OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA. AFTER SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY IN THE COAST GUARD AND U.S. NAVY, WELLS JOINED HIS FATHER AND OLDER BROTHER AT E.T. GRESHAM COMPANY FOR A LIFELONG CAREER.

FOLLOWING IN HIS FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS WELLS BECAME A ROTARIAN; HIS INTRODUCTION AS A NEW MEMBER WAS CARRIED OUT ON APRIL 12, 1955 BY LEWIS W. "LEW" WEBB, JR. – HIS GOOD FRIEND AND MENTOR.

HIS LEADERSHIP IN ROTARY CULMINATED AS CLUB PRESIDENT FROM 1966-67, ACHIEVING SUCCESS AND GUIDED BY THE THEME OF "SHARING ROTARY." PRESIDENT WELLS PRESIDED OVER THE FORMATION OF TWO NEW ROTARY CLUBS, CHESAPEAKE AND PRINCESS ANNE; AN INTERACT CLUB AT MAURY HIGH SCHOOL AND ACHIEVED FIRST PRIZE FOR THE CLUB'S AZALEA FESTIVAL PARADE FLOAT.

HIS PRIDE IN THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING A ROTARIAN INSPIRED HIM TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT TO A NEW GENERATION OF ROTARY LEADERS WHO BENEFITED GREATLY FROM HIS KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE. WELLS WAS ABLE TO CONTINUE AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER - DESPITE FAILING HEALTH – DUE TO THE FAITHFUL DEVOTION AND SUPPORT OF HIS WIFE JANE. IN RECOGNITION OF HIS 50 YEAR COMMITMENT TO ROTARY, THE BOARD ELECTED TO BESTOW THE STATUS OF HONORARY MEMBER.

WELLS' LEGACY OF SERVICE THROUGH ROTARY CONTINUES WITH HIS SON STEVE, A PAST-PRESIDENT OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF ALEXANDRIA, VA AND AN ACTIVE LEADER WITHIN DISTRICT 7610.

A LONGTIME SUPPORTER OF ODU, WELLS SERVED AS A DIRECTOR OF THE ODU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, PRESIDENT OF THE NORFOLK DIVISION ALUMNI CHAPTER AND AS CHAIRMAN OF THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE EXTENSION OF ODU'S WILLIAMSBURG WALL.

WELLS GRESHAM DIED ON MARCH 8, 2011. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE JANE, SON STEVE, DAUGHTER KATHY, AND FOUR GRANDSONS, CHRISTOPHER, JAMESON, JUSTIN AND JORDAN.

IN THE PASSING OF WELLS GRESHAM, ROTARIANS HAVE LOST A KIND AND FAITHFUL MEMBER AND FRIEND.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORFOLK, BY THIS RESOLUTION, RECORDS ITS RESPECT FOR WELLS GRESHAM AND FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS HE MADE TO ROTARY AND THE COMMUNITY; AND,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORFOLK WILL MAKE A MEMORIAL DONATION TO THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION IN HONOR OF WELLS GRESHAM; AND,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE MADE A PART OF THE PERMANENT RECORDS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORFOLK AND THAT A DULY ATTESTED COPY HEREOF BE PRESENTED TO HIS FAMILY AS AN EXPRESSION OF OUR SINCERE AND DEEP SYMPATHY.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS RESOLUTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORFOLK THIS 28TH DAY OF JUNE, 2011.

C. BEN MASON, PRESIDENT 2010-2011

SUSAN B. DONN, SECRETARY 2010-2011



Wells Gresham
Rotary Club of Norfolk
1955 – 2011
President 1966-67
Paul Harris Fellow