



CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA

Proclamation

In Honor of the Life and Work of Paul L. Hatcher

- WHEREAS,** Coach Paul Lynwood Hatcher, 80, the winningest coach in Virginia High School League history, and beloved father, grandfather, husband, and friend, passed away on August 25, 2023; and
- WHEREAS,** Coach Hatcher came to Staunton in 1966 and began a 43-year career at Robert E. Lee High School that would produce more wins than any other coach in the history of the Virginia High School League; and
- WHEREAS,** in addition to his unmatched success as a basketball coach, he was also Lee High's golf coach as well as the Driver's Education instructor, helping make Staunton much safer for pedestrians and drivers alike, by teaching thousands of high school students behind the wheel; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Staunton honored Coach Hatcher and his players multiple times throughout the years, including in March 1990 when the citizens of Staunton presented him with an engraved plaque for his dedication to Staunton youth; the weekend of May 5, 1990 that was named "Paul Hatcher Weekend" and that same month, when the high school gymnasium was renamed the "Paul Hatcher Gymnasium" in honor of his 22 years as coach; and, in 1995 when then Mayor G. John Avoli presented Coach Hatcher with a resolution in honor of his induction into the VHSL Hall of Fame; and
- WHEREAS,** among family members, Paul Hatcher will perhaps best be remembered as a devoted and supportive husband of more than 50 years to his beloved wife, Judy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by Staunton City Council, that September 1, 2023, is hereby known as

Paul Hatcher Day

in the City of Staunton, and the city honors the life, legacy, memory, and lasting impact of Coach Hatcher on our community, and we express our deepest and most heartfelt sympathies to the Hatcher family. **BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that the Clerk of Council is directed to forward a copy of this Proclamation to the Hatcher family.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the city to be affixed, adopted this 1st day of September, 2023.

ATTEST: Kiley Kesecker
CLERK OF COUNCIL



Steph W Claffey
STEPHEN W. CLAFFEY, MAYOR

