

By: Wu

H.R. No. 148

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, All who shared in the life of Manuel Valdes
2 LaFont Jr. were deeply saddened by his untimely death in June 2021,
3 at the age of 54; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Houston on January 27, 1967, Manny LaFont
5 was the son of Myriam Matilde Manresa de Valdes-LaFont and Manuel
6 Valdes LaFont, who both emigrated from Cuba; he grew up in the
7 Robindell neighborhood with two sisters and attended Richmond
8 Elementary School and Sharpstown Junior and Senior High Schools; a
9 talented athlete and baseball fanatic, he was a member of Little
10 League and high school teams and played at Hill College and in a
11 local Cuban league; after completing his bachelor's degree in
12 business administration at the University of Houston, he embarked
13 on a career in the road safety industry; he eventually moved to the
14 Miami, Florida, area and led a division of Lindsay Transportation
15 Solutions; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. LaFont and his former wife, Adriana LaFont, were
17 the proud parents of a daughter, Mia, and a son, Santi; his world
18 revolved around his children, and almost every day, he rode bikes
19 with them on the beach, took them to the park, and played baseball
20 with his son; as coach of his son's baseball team, the Astros, he
21 was kind and encouraging to all of the players, offering positive
22 reinforcement for good efforts and personal improvement; when team
23 members moved on, he stayed in touch with their parents and
24 continued to follow their progress; he volunteered as a youth

1 basketball coach as well; and

2 WHEREAS, A man of strong faith, Mr. LaFont was a parishioner
3 of St. Patrick Catholic Church, where his children attended school;
4 his big heart, big personality, and marvelous sense of humor
5 brought him a host of friendships, and he always stayed especially
6 close to his Houston schoolmates, including many he had known since
7 kindergarten; during the COVID-19 pandemic, he was a steadfast
8 source of support and consolation to those in his circle, talking
9 for hours on the phone about their challenges; he never hesitated to
10 express his love to those he held dear; and

11 WHEREAS, Manny LaFont possessed a generosity of spirit that
12 revealed itself in myriad ways, and although his loss is difficult
13 to bear, memories of joyous times spent in his company will forever
14 illuminate the lives of those he left behind; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
16 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
17 Manuel Valdes "Manny" LaFont Jr. and extend sincere condolences to
18 all who mourn his passing; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Manuel
22 Valdes "Manny" LaFont.