

By: Cook

H.R. No. 1207

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Fort Worth lost a distinguished
2 community leader with the death of former city councilperson Clyde
3 Wendell Picht on January 1, 2021, at the age of 87; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Salt Lake City, Clyde Picht earned a
5 bachelor's degree in forest management from Utah State University,
6 where he was also a member of the ROTC; after working for the U.S.
7 Forest Service as a firefighter and manager, he joined the U.S. Air
8 Force and served for 22 years, including a combat tour as a pilot in
9 Vietnam, where he earned the Distinguished Flying Cross with two
10 oak leaf clusters and the Purple Heart with two oak leaf clusters;
11 he rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel before retiring in 1978;
12 returning to civilian life, he trained flight crews for American
13 Airlines for nearly two decades, including the crew of Air Force
14 One; he retired in 1996; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1997, Mr. Picht was elected to the Fort Worth
16 City Council by only 10 votes, earning the ironic nickname
17 "Landslide Clyde"; he served until 2005, winning the respect and
18 admiration of his constituents and his colleagues for his
19 dedication and thorough attention to detail; he ensured that every
20 constituent call or letter was attended to, and he read massive city
21 council binders straight through on the weekend before council
22 meetings; and

23 WHEREAS, Earlier in his life, Mr. Picht served as president,
24 vice president, and treasurer of the Wedgwood East Neighborhood

1 Association, and in retirement, he volunteered with the Salvation
2 Army Adult Rehabilitation Center, the B-36 Peacemaker Museum, the
3 Texas National Cemetery Foundation, and Friends of Texas Health
4 Harris Methodist Hospital Southwest; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1955, while still an ROTC student at Utah State
6 University, he went into the hospital for minor surgery and met a
7 nurse named Emeline Trujillo, and he claimed to be in more pain than
8 he actually was so that she would spend more time with him; they
9 married six months later and went on to share 65 years together
10 until her death in 2020; they were the parents of four children and
11 later welcomed three grandchildren into their family; all their
12 lives, she called him by his middle name, Wendell, and he called her
13 Tru, for her maiden name, Trujillo; and

14 WHEREAS, A dynamic man with a keen intellect, Clyde Picht
15 lived a rich and purposeful life devoted to his family, his
16 community, and his nation, and he leaves behind a record of service
17 that his loved ones can remember with pride; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
19 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Clyde Wendell Picht
20 and extend heartfelt sympathy to his relatives and many friends;
21 and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
24 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Clyde
25 Picht.