

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 36

In Memory
of
Charles Cowles

WHEREAS, The death of Dr. Charles Eugene Cowles Jr. on December 26, 2020, at the age of 52, leaves his loved ones to reflect on a life of meaningful accomplishments and dedicated service to his profession and his community; and

WHEREAS, Charles Cowles Jr. was born in Houston to Charles and Carol Cowles on April 19, 1968, and he grew up with two siblings, Jo Ann and Connie; after graduating from Greenwood Village Christian Academy, he earned an associate degree in nursing from the State University of New York and a bachelor's degree in sports medicine from the University of Houston-Clear Lake; and

WHEREAS, From 1989 to 1998, Mr. Cowles worked as a firefighter and senior paramedic in Beaumont, and from 1993 to 2004, he also taught and served as clinical coordinator of emergency management services courses at San Jacinto College; he completed his medical degree at The University of Texas Medical School at Houston and served his residency in anesthesiology at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston; in 2013, he received a master's degree in business administration from the Physician Executive MBA Program of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cowles was an associate professor and assistant clinical director at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, where he was also divisional chief safety

officer, incident commander, and vice chair of the Acute and Critical Care Committee; as a researcher, he specialized in the prevention of surgical and operating room fires, neuro-anesthesiology, and tactical and disaster medicine; he was a Fellow of the American Society of Anesthesiologists; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Dr. Cowles served as the public health officer for the City of Pasadena, earning a commendation from the Harris County Precinct 8 Constable's Office; he was a board member of the Pasadena Police Department's Emergency Response and SWAT teams and the Houston Regional Active Attack Coordinated Training Group, and he taught CPR and Stop the Bleed programs in his community and at the Texas Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cowles served his profession as assistant treasurer of the Texas Society of Anesthesiologists, treasurer/secretary of the Harris County Medical Society, chair of the Texas Medical Association Council on Medical Education, alternate delegate to the board of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, and trustee of the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center and the Texas Medical Association Insurance Trust; and

WHEREAS, A man of deep religious faith, Dr. Cowles was a deacon at First Baptist Church of Pasadena and a board member of First Baptist Christian Academy and Youth Reach Houston, a faith-based program for young men; he was also a proud conservative Republican, and he often traveled to Austin and Washington, D.C., to advocate on behalf of his patients; and

WHEREAS, In 1995, Dr. Cowles met the love of his life, Jennifer Kendrick, who was attending an emergency medical technician course he was teaching; ever the professional, he waited until the final day of the course to ask her on their first date, which was on New Year's Eve 1995, and on May 19, 2000, the couple were married; together they had three sons, Christopher, Caleb, and Jake, whom Dr. Cowles referred to as "his cowboys"; a warm-hearted man with a quick wit and a deep laugh, he was a

skilled cook and hunter, and he also took great pleasure in sipping bourbon, rooting for the Houston Astros, wearing wild socks, listening to music, and following the fortunes of the space program; and

WHEREAS, Charles Cowles was admired and respected for his considerable gifts and achievements, as well as for his devotion to his family, state, and nation, and he will forever remain a source of inspiration for those he leaves behind; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Dr. Charles Eugene Cowles Jr. and extend heartfelt sympathy to his relatives and many friends; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Charles Cowles Jr.

Creighton

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 9, 2021, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate