

By: Clardy

H.R. No. 659

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of Nacogdoches lost an esteemed surgeon and
2 a beloved member of the community with the passing of Dr. Larry
3 Walker on December 16, 2021, at the age of 81; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in De Kalb on July 19, 1949, to Enois and Leon
5 Walker, Larry Walker grew up with the companionship of two younger
6 brothers, Luke and Howard; he went on to graduate from Texas A&M
7 University-Commerce and Baylor College of Medicine, and he
8 subsequently enlisted in the United States Army; from 1969 to 1970,
9 he served as captain of the Bravo Company Medical Battalion during
10 the Vietnam War, distinguishing himself through his work as a
11 brigade surgeon and earning both a Bronze Star and an Army
12 Commendation Medal; after receiving an honorable discharge, he
13 completed his surgical residency at Ben Taub Hospital, and he and
14 other residents at the hospital were featured in a 1970 issue of
15 *Life* magazine; and

16 WHEREAS, In the early 1970s, Dr. Walker moved to Nacogdoches
17 and established a private surgical practice at Nacogdoches Memorial
18 Hospital; he served as a general and trauma surgeon and as the
19 hospital's chief of surgery up until his retirement in 2017, and he
20 was instrumental in opening its chemotherapy department and
21 establishing the East Texas Community Health Clinic; his commitment
22 to excellence brought out the best in the staff who worked under
23 him, and at times, his deep concern for the patients he treated led
24 him to waive medical costs for those who were unable to pay; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Walker also volunteered his time as the hospice
2 director at Nacogdoches Memorial, and he served on the boards of the
3 Nacogdoches County Hospital District, as well as the Samaritan
4 Center, the East Texas Treatment Center, Friends of Music at
5 Stephen F. Austin State University, and Texas A&M
6 University-Commerce; he was recognized as an Outstanding Alumnus of
7 Texas A&M University-Commerce in 2012; and

8 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Dr. Walker enjoyed the love
9 and support of his wife of 56 years, Diana Walker, and he took great
10 pride in his sons, Andrew, Craig, and Kevin, and his grandchildren,
11 Sophia, Liam, Logan, and Sylvia; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Larry Walker dedicated his life to healing and
13 helping others, and he leaves behind a legacy of compassion and
14 selflessness that will long be treasured by all those who held him
15 dear; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
17 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Dr. Larry Walker and
18 extend sincere sympathy to his family, friends, and former
19 colleagues; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Larry
23 Walker.