

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 1150

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to
2 a close with the passing of William Ryle Edwards Jr. of Corpus
3 Christi on March 13, 2023, at the age of 91; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Catherine and William Edwards, Bill
5 Edwards was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, on August 25, 1931, and
6 he grew up in Virginia with the companionship of his brother, Jack;
7 he graduated from Staunton Military Academy and went on to receive
8 both his bachelor's degree and his law degree from the University of
9 Virginia; a talented diver, he won the Virginia title for low-board
10 diving and the Amateur Athletic Union state championship for
11 high-board diving; in 1953, he joined the U.S. Army; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards moved to Texas to embark on his legal
13 career, joining the firm of Baker Botts in Houston; shortly
14 thereafter, he relocated to Corpus Christi and eventually opened
15 his own personal injury practice, The Edwards Law Firm; he was
16 active in a number of statewide professional organizations and
17 served as president of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association in 1968,
18 on the board of governors for the Association of Trial Lawyers of
19 America, and as a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial
20 Lawyers; in the course of his service to his community and state, he
21 advocated to change the law in Texas for people receiving
22 compensation; and

23 WHEREAS, In his leisure time, Mr. Edwards was an avid
24 fisherman and also enjoyed hunting, gardening, ranching, and

1 playing handball; while he was committed to "what was right," he
2 never failed to enjoy the luxuries of life and also appreciated
3 Texas' nature; and

4 WHEREAS, Although he will be deeply missed, the passage of
5 time will never diminish the joy and love that Bill Edwards brought
6 into the lives of all who knew him; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
8 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of William Ryle
9 Edwards Jr. and extend heartfelt condolences to the members of his
10 family: to his wife, Sally Lander; to his children, Terry Baiamonte
11 and her husband, Rob, Margaret "Libby" Edwards Pender and her
12 husband, Frank, William R. "Billy" Edwards III and his wife, Paula,
13 and Dr. Margaret Lander Rising; to his grandchildren, Lander Beck
14 Baiamonte, Benjamin Scott Baiamonte and his wife, Caroline, Stewart
15 Randall Mann and his wife, Carrie, William Price Salem, William R.
16 "Ryle" Edwards IV, John A. "Alex" Edwards, Jack Edwards Rising, and
17 Linn Edwards Rising; to his great-grandchildren, Conlee Stewart
18 Mann and Everett Ames Mann; and to his many other relatives and
19 friends; 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 Bill
23 Edwards.