

By: Creighton, et al.

S.R. No. 362

SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of Jimmy Don Blair, who died in 2023 at the age of 81; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Don Blair was born on September 27, 1941, in the town of Borger in the Texas Panhandle; an accomplished athlete and student, he graduated from Borger High School and went on to attend Oklahoma University; a talented and adventurous young man, Jim earned his pilot license, and after deciding to pursue a career in law rather than medicine during his senior year, he flew to The University of Texas to enroll in law school; and

WHEREAS, Jim was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1967 and moved to the Texas Panhandle, where he served the City of Amarillo as assistant city attorney and as city judge; Jim also served as the assistant district attorney of Randall County before later relocating to Houston; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his time in public service, Jim sought to create more efficient and effective processes in local government to better serve citizens, and he and three other city attorneys formed a private law firm dedicated to performing essential services to aid local governments, beginning with the collection of delinquent property taxes; and

WHEREAS, Highly respected by his colleagues, community

members, and clients, Jim was profoundly knowledgeable in many legal fields and used his expertise to improve the lives of others; he was instrumental in updating the Texas Property Tax Code by drafting legislation that penalized delinquent taxpayers rather than burdening taxing entities and other taxpaying citizens; and

WHEREAS, In 1980, Jim transferred his legal practice to Houston to be of service to more people; over ensuing decades, he and his partners altered the firm, which now is known as Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, and Sampson; he retired in 2006 and became a senior advisor to the firm; and

WHEREAS, Jim was a man of deep faith who gave unselfishly to others throughout his life; guided by a spirit of generosity, he hosted more than 300 fundraisers over 10 years and contributed to numerous philanthropic organizations, including disaster relief efforts, and foundations to support education, cancer patients, community clinics, and a food bank; and

WHEREAS, Named the hometown hero of The Woodlands in 2011, he was widely known and admired throughout the community, where he shared 35 rewarding years of marriage with Nelda Luce Blair; he was a devoted father to his daughter, Maris Ann Blair, and a loving father-in-law to her husband, David Hall, and, his kindness and wisdom were a source of light in the lives of those around him; he leaves behind an inspiring legacy of generosity and service, and his memory will be forever cherished by his many loved ones and by all who were privileged to share in his life; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 88th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Jimmy Don Blair; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jim Blair.