

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 91

In Memory
of
Jim Wacker

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of San Marcos in mourning the loss of Jim Wacker, who died August 26, 2003, at the age of 66; and

WHEREAS, Born in Detroit, Michigan, on April 28, 1937, Jim was the son of the Eleanor Wacker and the Reverend Herbert Wacker; and

WHEREAS, Jim Wacker received a bachelor's degree from Valparaiso University in Indiana in 1960; he later earned a master's degree from Wayne State University in Michigan and a doctorate from the University of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, During a football coaching career that spanned 26 years, Coach Wacker became known as an inspirational leader who possessed extraordinary enthusiasm, uncommon integrity, and genuine talent; he served as head coach at Texas Lutheran College, North Dakota State University, Southwest Texas State University, Texas Christian University, and the University of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Jim Wacker led his Texas Lutheran College Bulldogs to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II championship twice in a row, in 1974 and in 1975; he achieved a similar feat during his coaching career at Southwest Texas State University when the Bobcats claimed the national championship title in Division II of the National Collegiate Athletic Association in 1981 and again in 1982; and

WHEREAS, After retiring from coaching at the University of Minnesota in 1996, he returned to Southwest Texas State University in 1998 to serve as athletic director; more recently, he worked as a special assistant for athletic projects with the office of the president; he retired from the school in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Jim is fondly remembered as a man who faced daily challenges with a courageous and positive attitude; at Southwest Texas State University, where he spent many happy years, he was considered the embodiment of the spirit and enthusiasm of the campus; and

WHEREAS, Jim Wacker lived his life to the fullest and was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, and he leaves behind memories that will be treasured forever by his family and many friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Jim Wacker: his wife, Lil Wacker; his sons and daughters-in-law, Mike and Susie, Steve and Kyrrha, and Tom and Nikki Wacker; his grandchildren, Chris, Karl, David, Jaslyn, Jaryn, Genna, and Luke; his brother, the Reverend Dave Wacker, and his wife, Pat; his sister, Margaret Baeten, and her husband, George; and other beloved family members; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the members of 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 Wacker.

Wentworth

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on October 2, 2003, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate