

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 86

In Memory
of
Maury Maverick, Jr.

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of San Antonio in mourning the loss of the Honorable Maury Maverick, Jr., former member of the Texas House of Representatives, who died on January 28, 2003, at the age of 82; and

WHEREAS, Maury Maverick, Jr., was born to a prominent San Antonio family; Maury Maverick, Sr., his father, served two terms in the United States House of Representatives and was a mayor of San Antonio; and

WHEREAS, A 1938 graduate of the Texas Military Institute, Maury Maverick, Jr., earned a bachelor's degree from The University of Texas at Austin in 1942; after serving his country in the Marine Corps during World War II, he obtained a law degree from Saint Mary's University in 1949; he married Julia Orynski in 1966, and the couple settled in San Antonio; and

WHEREAS, Committed to high ethical principles, he was guided by his conscience in all his undertakings, regardless of the consequences; he became well known throughout the state as a tireless champion of the oppressed and downtrodden and as a liberal attorney, legislator, and newspaper columnist; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Maverick served in the Texas House of Representatives from 1950 to 1956; he and his fellow liberals stopped passage of a bill that would have imposed the death penalty on convicted communists; in addition, he was one of a handful of state legislators who took a firm stance against the worst acts of the McCarthy era; and

WHEREAS, Maury Maverick established a reputation as a highly talented attorney; in 1954, he won his first big victory when an appellate court in Austin threw out a law prohibiting professional boxing matches between blacks and whites; as a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union, he defended Madalyn Murray O'Hair, the world-famous atheist; and in a case before the United States Supreme Court in the 1960s, he won a victory for a San Antonio bookseller accused of keeping seditious papers in his home; and

WHEREAS, In 1980, he began to write a column for the *San Antonio Express-News*; he wrote prolifically during a 20-year-long career with the newspaper, and a collection of more than 1,000 of his columns edited by a history professor at Trinity University was published as *Texas Iconoclast*; and

WHEREAS, Maury Maverick believed deeply in the democratic process, and he was noted for his forthrightness and integrity; a man of deep conviction and a true "maverick," he was a tireless champion of underdogs, and he will be greatly missed by citizens across the state; and

WHEREAS, Maury Maverick lived his life to the fullest and was a devoted husband, 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, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Maury Maverick, Jr.: his wife, Julia; and his sister, Terrellita Maverick; 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 Maury Maverick, Jr.

Van de Putte, Madla,
Wentworth, Zaffirini

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on January 30, 2003, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate