

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 566

In Memory
of
H.D. Cannon

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Houston in mourning the loss of H.D. Cannon, who died April 3, 2003 at the age of 78; and

WHEREAS, H.D. was born December 15, 1924, in Donie, Texas, to Ezra and Dora Cannon; he attended schools in the Donie Public School System and Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College; and

WHEREAS, He moved to Houston in 1942 and married Mildred "Billie" Stephens in 1944; the couple was married 26 years and was blessed with three daughters, Beverly Daphne, Deborah Arnesia, and Tonie Cannon; in 1974, he married JoAnn Funchess and they had one son, Chad Christopher Cannon; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, H.D. worked for Southern Pacific Railroad, Ye Ole College Inn, and Sakowitz, and he was employed with Continental Airlines for 24 years until his retirement in 1995; and

WHEREAS, In the 1950s, he exhibited an entrepreneurial spirit that lasted into the 21st century; he and Billie established a joint venture as independent contractors with the Square Deal Cab Company and also co-owned a family catering service; in 1978, he and JoAnn founded Classic Limousine Service, the second black-owned limousine company in the Houston Metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, A man of integrity, strength, and generosity, Mr. Cannon gave unselfishly of his time to others, and his wisdom, warmth, and valued counsel will not be forgotten by those who knew him; and

WHEREAS, H.D. Cannon dedicated his life to Christ at an early age and was a member of Mount Zion Baptist Church; he 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, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of H.D. Cannon: his wife, JoAnn Cannon; his daughters, Beverly Roberts, Deborah Bell, and Tonja Cannon; his son, Chad Cannon; his stepson, Kevin Funchess; his sister, Ethel Mae Hubbard; and his three grandchildren and great-grandson; and, be it further

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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 H.D. Cannon.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 7, 2003, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate