

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 883

In Memory  
of  
The Honorable Searcy Bracewell

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Houston and Texans across the state in mourning the loss of the Honorable Searcy Bracewell, who died on May 13, 2003, at the age of 85; and

**WHEREAS**, Searcy Bracewell was born in Houston on January 19, 1918, to J. S. and Lola Blount Bracewell; and

**WHEREAS**, As a student at Texas A&M University, Mr. Bracewell was a member of the Corps of Cadets and was drum major of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band; he graduated in 1938 and remained a lifelong and deeply committed supporter of his alma mater; he was chairman of the Sul Ross Group of the Texas A&M Former Students Association; and

**WHEREAS**, Searcy Bracewell attended Houston Law School and was admitted to the Texas State Bar in 1940; he was on the staff of General George Patton's Third Army during World War II; he was awarded the European Theater Medal with five battle stars for his service; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1945, he and his father and brother founded the law firm of Bracewell & Patterson, which is headquartered in Houston and now has offices in 11 cities in three countries; in addition to practicing law, he helped operate a family business, Broadway Plan, and he served as a managing director of Shearson Lehman Brothers; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Bracewell served in the Texas House of Representatives from 1947 to 1949 and in the Texas Senate from 1949 to 1959; he served as President Pro-Tem of the Texas Senate in 1957; during his tenure, his major legislative accomplishments included authoring bills establishing institutions that have since become The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and The University of Texas Health Science Center Dental School; and

**WHEREAS**, A highly respected leader in his community and state, Mr. Bracewell was involved in numerous civic and educational activities; notably, he served as president and chairman of the board of the Houston Grand Opera, a board member and interim president of the South Texas College of Law, a board member of the Houston Chamber of Commerce, and a trustee of the Houston Foundation; and

**WHEREAS**, In honor of his exceptional accomplishments, Mr. Bracewell was named a Texas A&M University Distinguished Alumnus in 1978; he received the Texas Aggie Lawyer of the Year Award, and was honored with the Corps of Cadets Hall of Honor Award in 2002; and

**WHEREAS**, Searcy Bracewell 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, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Searcy Bracewell: his wife of 63 years, Elizabeth Weaver Bracewell; his son and daughter-in-law, Joe and Peggy Bracewell; his daughter and son-in-law, Betsy and David Machac; his brother, Fentress Bracewell; and his seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; 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 the Honorable Searcy Bracewell.

Whitmire

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 15, 2003, by a rising vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate