

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 44

In Memory
of
Elbert Aldrich

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Temple in mourning the loss of longtime business and civic leader Elbert Aldrich, who died May 5, 2005, at the age of 81; and

WHEREAS, Elbert Aldrich was born in Rosebud on September 12, 1923, to Murdock Collins and Mamie Mock Aldrich; he graduated from Rosebud High School and attended Temple Junior College; and

WHEREAS, He was a sixth-generation Texan and direct descendant of Adam Lawrence, one of the state's earliest settlers, and he was widely known for continuing the pioneering spirit of his forebearer in his resoluteness, his fortitude, and his tenacity in pursuing his goals; and

WHEREAS, He served his country in the United States Navy during World War II, completing 95 combat missions and participating in five major battles; he received numerous commendations including the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal; and

WHEREAS, After his return from military service, he joined his father as a partner in a Hudson automobile dealership; Elbert sold his automotive business in 1965 to pursue a career in real estate, developing the new town of Harker Heights with his father-in-law, and then moved his business to Temple; and

WHEREAS, Using the front seat of his car as his office, Elbert Aldrich at first sold farms and ranches, but soon began to specialize in industrial and commercial sites; he helped develop the Temple Industrial Park and encouraged restaurant chains and motels to locate along the Interstate 35 corridor; and

WHEREAS, He was influential in persuading Wal-Mart and Sam's Club and many other businesses to open in the Temple area, including Texas Instruments, Michelin Tire, and Western Auto; and

WHEREAS, Elbert was active in the Texas Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors; he was named Realtor of the Year several times by the Temple-Belton Board of Realtors, and received the organization's first lifetime achievement award in 2004; and

WHEREAS, He was a member of First Baptist Church of Temple, the Sons of the Republic of Texas, Texas First Families, Descendants of San Jacinto, and the Karem Shrine; he was also a 32nd degree Mason and a Scottish Rite Mason; and

WHEREAS, 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, 79th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Elbert Aldrich: his wife,

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Dorothy Ann Cox Aldrich; his daughters and sons-in-law, Amy and Lloyd Thomas and Ann and Robert Barkemeyer; and his four grandchildren; 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 Elbert Aldrich.

Fraser

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on July 6, 2005, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate