

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 112

In Memory
of
Alex Charles Pickens

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Beaumont in mourning the loss of Alex Charles Pickens, who died June 3, 2005, at the age of 74; and

WHEREAS, Born November 22, 1930, in Opelousas, Louisiana, Alex married Grace Florence Brown on March 8, 1951, and together they raised seven children; Grace preceded him in death after 44 years of marriage; and

WHEREAS, Alex served his country in the United States Army, where he trained as a cook and discovered he had an exceptional gift in the field of culinary arts; he began his career in Houston at the White Cottage Restaurant, and in 1960, he moved to Beaumont, where he served as an executive chef at the Red Carpet Inn and at a number of establishments, including the Hilton Hotel and the Beaumont Country Club; and

WHEREAS, Through the years, Alex's reputation grew as he rose to the challenge of creating unique recipes and presentations; he was named Chef of the Year by the Texas Chefs Association in 1992, and he led the effort to establish the Golden Triangle Chapter of the Texas Chefs Association; and

WHEREAS, Known for his trademark ice sculptures, Alex was regarded as the Dean of Chefs by Beaumont culinary professionals, and he enjoyed a career that spanned nearly five decades; he also volunteered countless hours at local nursing homes and schools and shared his knowledge and expertise with young chefs; in 2002, he opened Chef Pickens Donuts, which he operated with his daughter Deborah until the time of his death; and

WHEREAS, A man of courage, strength, and kindness, Alex gave generously of himself to others, and his wisdom, warmth, and valued counsel will not be forgotten by those who knew him; and

WHEREAS, Alex Pickens 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, 79th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Alex Charles Pickens: his children, John, Deborah, Alex Bernard, Sarah, Mark, and Kevin;

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his daughters-in-law, Gloria Rubic Pickens, Berlinda Pickens, and Rhonda Pickens; his son-in-law, Cedric Joseph; and his eight 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 Alex Pickens.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on July 18, 2005, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate