

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 79

In Memory
of
Charles Ray Barden

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Austin in mourning the loss of Charles Ray Barden, who died July 23, 2005, at the age of 89; and

WHEREAS, Born June 24, 1916, in Orange, Texas, Charles Barden graduated from Austin High School in 1933; he earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry and zoology from The University of Texas in 1937, a master's degree in municipal and sanitary engineering from Texas A&M University in 1942, and a certificate of public health from Vanderbilt University; and

WHEREAS, While at The University of Texas, Charles met and married Gertrude Kuehne; they performed Gilbert and Sullivan light operas together, and he later passed his lifelong love of music to his children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Charles began a career serving the people of Texas when he joined the Texas Department of Public Health in 1937; that career was interrupted when he joined the United States Army during World War II and served at numerous bases while teaching in the area of public health; after the war, he remained in the United States Army Reserve and attained the rank of lieutenant colonel; and

WHEREAS, After the war, Charles held several key administrative posts in which he became known for his expertise on the environment and its relationship to public health and which led to his selection as the first executive director of the Texas Air Control Board; while shouldering this important career, he also taught graduate courses and seminars at The University of Texas Civil Engineering Department; and

WHEREAS, Starting with a staff of only three engineers, Charles built the Texas Air Control Board into an organization of over 350 engineers, chemists, health specialists, and others; under his leadership, the organization became recognized as one of the best state air pollution agencies in the nation; and

WHEREAS, After his retirement from the public sector in 1977, Charles continued to be active in his field as a nationally recognized authority; he testified before Congress and worked with the governments of South Korea and Mexico to help with those countries' pollution problems; and

WHEREAS, He also spent much of his time on his ranch near Elgin, branding calves and growing watermelons; he and his late wife, Trudy, traveled the world, and he pursued his interest in genealogy; and

WHEREAS, Noted for his strength of character and his sense of humor, Charles gave generously of himself to others, and his wisdom, warmth, and valued counsel will not be forgotten by those who knew him; and

WHEREAS, Charles Barden lived his life to the fullest and was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, and he leaves behind memories that will be cherished forever by his family and many friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Charles Ray Barden: his daughter, Nancy Barden Davis; his son, Richard Edwards Barden; his granddaughter, Susan Davis Gryder and her husband, Edmund Gryder; his great-grandchildren, Charles Gryder and Claudia Stuart Gryder; his grandson, Richard Freeman Davis; and his daughter-in-law, Julia Watkins-Davis; 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 Charles Ray Barden.

Barrientos

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on August 9, 2005, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate