

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 146

In Memory
of
Alfred Ashbrook King

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Austin in mourning the loss of civic leader Alfred Ashbrook King, who died March 25, 2006, at the age of 89; and

WHEREAS, Alfred King was one of Austin's leading philanthropists, renowned for his visionary leadership and inherent commitment to community service; he was born in Corpus Christi on July 19, 1916, to Richard and Pierpont King, who were both community leaders; his great-grandfather was the founder of the famed King Ranch; and

WHEREAS, He graduated from Corpus Christi High School and Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire and earned bachelor of business administration and doctor of jurisprudence degrees from The University of Texas at Austin, where he was president of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and served as editor of the 1940 *Cactus* yearbook; and

WHEREAS, While at the university, he met Ellen Umphres, who became his life partner for 65 years; the couple moved to Corpus Christi after graduation, and Alfred looked after business interests for R. King and Company; he entered military service in 1943 and served in the Counterintelligence Corps; and

WHEREAS, Following World War II, he moved with his family to McAllen and from there managed the family ranch in Encino; he held leadership positions in many business and civic organizations in the Rio Grande Valley and in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where the family had purchased a second home, and where he helped start the Santa Fe Opera; and

WHEREAS, After selling his interest in the ranch in 1960, Alfred moved with his family to Austin, where he directed operations for numerous business interests and became deeply involved with civic organizations with special interests in education, health care, and the arts; he was founding chairman of the Austin Lyric Opera and served on the board of trustees for Laguna Gloria Art Museum, now the Austin Museum of Art, for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, He held leadership positions with Saint David's Healthcare System, The University of Texas at Austin, and Saint Edward's University; with his wife, Ellen, he established lectureships in The University of Texas at Austin's College of Fine Arts and School of Natural Sciences; and

WHEREAS, Alfred King was a caring and decent gentleman who never sought acclaim but did receive many well-deserved honors throughout his lifetime for his community service, his selfless dedication to helping others, and his wise and generous counsel; and

WHEREAS, He was a devoted husband and father, 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, 3rd Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Alfred Ashbrook King: his wife, Ellen; his daughter, Pierpont King; and his sons and daughters-in-law, Gilbert and Marci King and Gordon and Alma King; 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 Alfred Ashbrook King.

Barrientos

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 4, 2006, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate