

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 249

In Memory
of
Samuel Dean Gardner

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Houston in mourning the loss of Samuel Dean Gardner, who died January 26, 2005, at the age of 75; and

WHEREAS, Born in Rising Star, Texas, on February 12, 1929, Samuel Dean was one of the 10 children and the youngest of seven boys born to Samuel Augustus and Lilla Bertha Griggs Gardner; he earned a degree in dairy manufacturing from Texas Tech University in 1950 and served in the United States Army during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, Sam married Jean Evelyn Sealy, a friend of his sister Lavanne, in 1951, and the couple enjoyed a long and happy marriage; after Sam left the military in 1955, the family moved to Houston, and Sam began working with his brother T. D. in his ice cream plant; Sam also operated a fleet of ice cream trucks under the name Dean's Ice Cream; and

WHEREAS, Known in his youth as Dean, he began using the name Sam when he entered the business world, although Jean still sometimes called him Dean; in 1960, the family moved to Lubbock, where Sam began working as an accountant for a pipeline construction company and had a homebuilding business on the side; and

WHEREAS, The family returned to Houston in 1970, and Sam started Sam Gardner Construction Company and built custom homes for 20 years; he retired from the construction business, but Sam was not the sort of man to remain inactive, and he started a container-grown tree farm; and

WHEREAS, To know Sam was to like him, and over the years, he accumulated a host of friends and would drop everything for a chance to go fishing with his buddies; he once said to Jean that if he was rewarded with a place in Heaven, he hoped he could also be rewarded with a fishing pond; and

WHEREAS, Sam had strong beliefs, and he was prompt and precise; he loved life and lived it to the fullest; a generous and compassionate man, he supported several churches, Campus Crusade for Christ, children's homes, and many medical research programs; and

WHEREAS, He loved his family and his country and he enriched the lives of those who knew him with his warmth and kindness; 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, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Samuel Dean Gardner: his wife, Jean; his daughters and sons-in-law, Kathi Lyn Powell and Richard H. Powell, Jr., and Karen Jean and Philip Ronnie Stubblefield; his brothers, James and T. D. Gardner; his sisters, Lucy Marlo, Dorothy Adams, and Lavanne Emery; his grandsons, Richard and Clayton Powell and Kevin and Brett Stubblefield; and his great-grandson, Julian Isaac Stubblefield; 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 Samuel Dean Gardner.

Lindsay

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 28, 2005, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate