

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 563

In Memory
of
His Holiness Pope John Paul II

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins people around the world in mourning the loss of His Holiness Pope John Paul II, who died April 2, 2005, at the age of 84; and

WHEREAS, The spiritual leader of the world's 1.2 billion Roman Catholics, Pope John Paul II was noted for his deep-seated humanitarianism and for his efforts to reach out to all people, irrespective of religion or culture; and

WHEREAS, A champion of human dignity, he spoke for those whose voices would not have been heard otherwise, such as the poor and the homeless; he was an intellectual and a scholar who held degrees in theology and philosophy; he was also a poet, a playwright, and a linguist who spoke nine languages fluently; and

WHEREAS, Born Karol Wojtyla on May 18, 1920, in Wadowice, Poland, he was ordained a priest in 1946; he served as the Archbishop of Krakow and was made a cardinal in 1967 by Pope Paul VI; in 1978, he was elected to the papacy at the age of 58, the first non-Italian elected to the position in 455 years and the youngest pope in 125 years; and

WHEREAS, Known as the most traveled pope in history, Pope John Paul II was truly a missionary to the world, having visited 129 countries during his papacy; a great spokesman for peace, social justice, and freedom, he played a major role in bringing down communism in Poland and throughout Eastern Europe; he was noted for his special rapport with young people and for teaching the need for responsibility and high moral principles in the modern world; and

WHEREAS, A fearless and tireless spiritual leader, he overcame many adversities, including an assassination attempt, and he went through an anguished struggle with a debilitating disease; his valor in the face of his illness was an inspiration to all, and in his final days, he showed the world how to die with dignity; and

WHEREAS, As a testimony to his greatness as a world leader and to his appeal as a beloved public figure, more than two million pilgrims are expected to arrive in Rome in the wake of his death to celebrate a life that touched so many and to commemorate the end of a historic era; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas,
79th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the life of Pope John Paul II;
and, be it further

RESOLVED, That when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in
memory of and in honor of Pope John Paul II.

Lucio

Armbrister
Averitt
Barrientos
Brimer
Carona
Deuell
Duncan
Ellis
Eltife
Estes

Fraser
Gallegos
Harris
Hinojosa
Jackson
Janek
Lindsay
Madla
Nelson
Ogden

Seliger
Shapiro
Shapleigh
Staples
Van de Putte
Wentworth
West
Whitmire
Williams
Zaffirini

Dewhurst, President of the Senate

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on April 7, 2005, by a
rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate