

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 733

In Memory
of
Olin Nickleberry

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Navarro County in mourning the loss of Olin Nickleberry, who died April 13, 2005, at the age of 75; and

WHEREAS, Born August 7, 1929, in Marietta, Texas, to Birdie and Maurice Nickleberry, Sr., Olin graduated from Rambo High School, south of Atlanta, Texas; and

WHEREAS, He attended Bishop College, where he was voted Most Outstanding Athlete and graduated with a degree in education; he later earned a master's degree in physical education at East Texas State University in 1972; he served as a paratrooper in the Army and then began a career in education; and

WHEREAS, A dedicated educator, Olin served as a teacher, coach, and special needs instructor in Navarro, Ellis, Freestone, and Limestone Counties and for the Corsicana Independent School District; he was a special education teacher for Blooming Grove Independent School District; and

WHEREAS, Selected as one of the Most Prominent Educators in Texas in 1983, Olin was affiliated with the National Education Association, and he was elected vice president of the Texas Association for Adult and Continuing Education; and

WHEREAS, The first African American elected county commissioner in Navarro County, Olin served three terms representing Precinct 2; he was a former member of the Navarro County Peace Officers Association, the Navarro County Committee on Aging, and the Navarro County Waste Management Task Force; and

WHEREAS, A well-known civic leader, Olin was a member of the Sunrise Lions Club, the Kerens Chamber of Commerce, and many other local organizations; he was a familiar figure at countless sporting events, acting as a referee or umpire throughout the area; and

WHEREAS, A deacon at Bethlehem Baptist Church and chairman of the deacon staff, Olin gave generously of himself to others, and his wisdom, warmth, and valued counsel will not be forgotten by those who knew him; and

WHEREAS, Olin Nickleberry 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

S.R. No. 733

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Olin Nickleberry: his wife, Edith Iles-Nickleberry; his daughters, Oretha Nickleberry and Brenda Gardner; his brothers, Joe, Benny, and Vernon Nickleberry; his sister, Lois Nickleberry; and his grandchildren, DeShawn Gardner II and Brendé Gardner; 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 Olin Nickleberry.

Averitt

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 2, 2005, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate