

By: Pena

H.R. No. 209

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life came to an end with the
2 passing of Elias Longoria, Sr., of Edinburg who died on August 7,
3 2006, at the age of 75; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on April 26, 1931, in La Reforma, Elias
5 Longoria graduated in 1950 from Edinburg High School, where he
6 excelled in both academics and athletics; he earned a scholarship
7 to attend Pan American College and played as a third baseman for the
8 baseball team before leaving school to serve his country; a veteran
9 of the Korean War, he served as a member of the U.S. Navy from 1951
10 to 1955; and

11 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan shared his time and talents with
12 the Edinburg community as a member of the school board for nearly a
13 decade, including serving as the first Hispanic president; his
14 tenure was characterized by his efforts to ensure fair hiring
15 practices, and he was instrumental in hiring the district's first
16 Hispanic superintendent; in addition, he volunteered for more than
17 20 years as a coach for local youth baseball teams; and

18 WHEREAS, After retiring from a distinguished career with
19 Southern Pacific Railroad, Mr. Longoria continued to fulfill his
20 civic duty, serving on the grievance committee of the Edinburg
21 Housing Authority and as a member of the Hidalgo County Grand Jury;
22 moreover, he was a faithful congregant of El Buen Pastor Methodist
23 Church; and

24 WHEREAS, A devoted husband and father, Mr. Longoria shared

1 nearly 50 years with his wife, the former Maruca Garza, and their
2 union was blessed with four children, Elias Longoria, Jr., Luis
3 Longoria, Leticia Lankford, and Victor Longoria; and

4 WHEREAS, Elias Longoria, Sr., was a man known for his strong
5 sense of responsibility and for his humility in the face of numerous
6 accomplishments, and he will be remembered with great affection by
7 all those who held him dear; and

8 WHEREAS, Representative Aaron Pena has justly recognized
9 Elias Longoria, Sr., by authorizing this resolution in his memory
10 during the Regular Session of the 80th Texas Legislature; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Elias Longoria, Sr.,
14 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his
15 wife, Maruca Longoria; to his children, Elias Longoria, Jr., and
16 his wife, Laurie, Luis Longoria and his wife, Noelia, Victor
17 Longoria and his wife, Kristy, and Leticia Lankford and her
18 husband, Gary; to his grandchildren, Philip, Aaron, Julia, Jon Eli,
19 Adam, Gram, Gray, Marco, Amanda, Chad, Isabella, and Abigail; to
20 his sisters, Rosa Elena March, Elma Vela, and Lidia Gordon; and to
21 his other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
24 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Elias
25 Longoria, Sr.