

By: Martinez

H.R. No. 845

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of Donna has lost an admired community
2 leader with the death of Forrest L. Jones on February 18, 2007; and

3 WHEREAS, Born in Houston to G. W. Jones, Sr., and Virginia
4 Hester Jones on November 25, 1939, "Champ" Jones was the
5 great-grandson of the late A. F. Hester, a founder of the Donna
6 community in the 1890s; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Jones started for the Donna Redskins football
8 team throughout his high school career and also lettered in track
9 and basketball; graduating from Donna High School in 1958 as class
10 salutatorian, he attended Southern Methodist University, where he
11 earned his bachelor's degree in accounting in 1962 and his law
12 degree in 1965; and

13 WHEREAS, Practicing law in the Donna and Weslaco communities
14 for more than 40 years, Mr. Jones worked for a time with his brother
15 Guy before joining the firm of Smith, McElheran, Lauderdale and
16 Jones in 1976; in 1984, he cofounded the present-day firm of Jones,
17 Galligan, Key and Lozano, L.L.P.; he also worked as a Donna city
18 attorney and as the Donna school attorney was named Most
19 Outstanding Young Lawyer in the State of Texas in 1972; and

20 WHEREAS, An active member of the community, Mr. Jones served
21 as the board chair of Alamo Bank of Texas, now Frost Bank, and Tan
22 U.S. Sales, Inc./Woodcrafters; a member of the Runn school board
23 and an officer in the Hidalgo County Bar Association, he was also a
24 member of the local Rotary Club and the Donna Chamber of Commerce,

1 was a Little League coach, and was active in the Donna Hooks
2 Fletcher Memorial Museum and Su Casa de Esperanza; and

3 WHEREAS, Fond of hunting, fishing, and reading, as well as
4 sports, travel, and mariachi music, Mr. Jones was also deeply
5 interested in researching and discussing his family history;
6 throughout all his endeavors, he enjoyed the love and support of his
7 wife of 43 years, the former Camille Johnston, and their three sons,
8 Michael, Matthew, and Mitchell; and

9 WHEREAS, Those who were fortunate enough to share in the
10 friendship and love of Champ Jones will long miss his charm,
11 loyalty, and kindness, but the memory of his warmth and generosity
12 will forever occupy a treasured place in their hearts; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
15 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Forrest L. Jones and
16 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,
17 Camille; to his sons, Michael and his wife, Kelli, Matthew and his
18 wife, Melissa, and Mitchell; to his grandchildren, Chelsea,
19 Clayton, Forrest, Joshua, and Emily; to his brothers, Guy and his
20 wife, Rebecca, and Larry; and to his other relatives and many
21 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 Champ
25 Jones.