

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 528

In Memory
of
William Henry Griffith, Jr.

WHEREAS, Family and friends of William Henry Griffith, Jr., of Austin mourn his passing on February 4, 2007, at the age of 85; and

WHEREAS, Born in Indianapolis, Indiana, on July 5, 1921, Bill Griffith graduated from Fenwick High School near Chicago and later earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Ohio State University; and

WHEREAS, Answering his nation's call to duty, Mr. Griffith served four years in the United States Army in the South Pacific during World War II, reaching the rank of captain in the 96th Infantry Division; he received two Purple Hearts, including one for the wound he received in action on April 1, 1945, during the assault on Okinawa; and

WHEREAS, Three weeks after returning home from the war, he married Margaret Hilger, and together they moved to Port Arthur, where Mr. Griffith worked for Texaco, helping to build and manage petrochemical facilities; and

WHEREAS, Retiring in 1982, Mr. Griffith continued to work as a consultant for the firm of Stone and Webster, which constructs refineries all over the world; he and his wife enjoyed the adventure of living in such far-flung places as Malaysia and Indonesia; and

WHEREAS, After the death of Mrs. Griffith in 1985, Mr. Griffith kept active by traveling to visit his children and grandchildren all over Texas and the Midwest; a devout Catholic, he was active with many charities, from the Lions Club to a group of volunteers that provides free tax advice at the local library; and

WHEREAS, Bill Griffith was a gentle soul and a devoted family man who contributed selflessly to his community, and he has left behind many fond memories that will be forever treasured by those who were privileged to share in his love and friendship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby honor the life of William Henry Griffith, Jr., and offer sincere condolences to his family: his sons, William Henry Griffith III and his wife, Shayne, and Anthony Griffith and his wife, Mary Lou; his daughters, Carol Ramberg and her husband, Eric, Joan Wiggins and her husband, Dane, Mary Pat Wilhelmi and her husband, James, and Catherine Cahan and her husband, Richard; his sisters, Mary Margaret Lawson, Kathleen Theado, and Angela Skrivanich; his 20 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of William Henry Griffith, Jr.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 20, 2007, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate