

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 601

In Memory
of
Henry Peter Porretto, Jr.

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Galveston in mourning the loss of civic leader Henry Peter Porretto, Jr., who died March 18, 2007, at the age of 78; and

WHEREAS, Henry Porretto was born on Galveston Island on July 16, 1928, and lived most of his working life in Galveston; he graduated from Kirwin High School, where he played on the varsity football team, was senior class president, and was named "Most Popular"; and

WHEREAS, He attended The University of Texas at Austin and the University of Houston and earned degrees in petroleum engineering and geology; he was proud to have served in the United States Army during the Korean War; he married the former Rosemarie Matijevich in 1956; and

WHEREAS, After working for a time with his father in the oil industry, he went into business for himself; he acquired real estate and developed the beachfront property known as Porretto Beach; he operated the business as a private park for over 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Henry Porretto was noted for his kindness and compassion for others; for many years, he donated the use of his property to such organizations as the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the Galveston Jaycees, and the Galveston County Sheriff's Department Beach Patrol; and

WHEREAS, He was a highly respected community leader and a member of such organizations as the Hotel Association of Galveston, the Galveston Park board of trustees, and the Galveston Lions Club; he was recognized twice as Lion of the Year and was honored multiple times with the Doctor Mihovil Award for Outstanding Leadership to the Welfare of his Community; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Henry Porretto championed private property owners' rights and constitutional rights; he lived each day to the fullest and especially enjoyed his daily visits with his friends for coffee and fellowship; he was well known for his steadfast adherence to high moral principles and for his dedication to his family; he taught each of his children the value of hard work and determination; and

WHEREAS, He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, and he will long be remembered with affection and admiration by all who knew him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Henry Peter Porretto, Jr.: his wife of 50 years, Rosemarie Matijevich Porretto; his sons and daughter-in-law, Lieutenant Henry Stephen Porretto, Michael Joseph and Suzanne Porretto, and Mark Dominic Porretto; his daughters and sons-in-law, Rose Ann and Scott Clements and Sonya and Darryl Nelson; and his grandchildren; and, be it further

S.R. No. 601

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for 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 Henry Peter Porretto, Jr.

Jackson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 29, 2007, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate