

By: Veasey

H.R. No. 873

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Fort Worth lost a respected physician
2 and beloved community leader on February 8, 2009, with the passing
3 of Dr. James Elvis Guinn III at the age of 91; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on September 14, 1917, to Elvis and Eva Guinn,
5 James Guinn attended the James E. Guinn School and graduated
6 from I. M. Terrell High School; after earning his bachelor's degree
7 from Prairie View A&M University, he studied to become a doctor at
8 Meharry Medical College and furthered his knowledge as a member of
9 the U.S. Army Medical Corps, attaining the rank of captain; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1942, Dr. Guinn married the love of his life, the
11 former Heloise Laverne-Jobe, in Fort Worth; during their 61 years
12 together, the couple were blessed with three children, Sheila,
13 James, and William, four granddaughters, Thalassia, Amena,
14 Lakendra, and Angela, and six great-granddaughters; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Guinn opened his private practice in 1946, and
16 he continued to serve patients in Fort Worth for the next six
17 decades, eventually retiring in 2007, at the age of 89; a pioneering
18 member of his profession, he was the first African American
19 physician to perform surgery at St. Joseph's Hospital, and he
20 earned several awards and accolades for the contributions he made
21 to his community; Dr. Guinn was a Fort Worth Ambassador, a life
22 member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, and a devout member of Allen
23 Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church; and

24 WHEREAS, Throughout his life, James Guinn proved himself a

1 man of tremendous ability and dedication, and although he will be
2 greatly missed, his legacy of compassionate service will continue
3 to inspire others for years to come; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
5 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Dr. James Elvis
6 Guinn III and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family:
7 to his children, Sheila Babers and her husband, Donald, James Elvis
8 Guinn IV, and William Rodney Guinn and his wife, Verdelle; to his
9 siblings, Dr. Edward Guinn and his wife, Addie, and Mary Dell
10 Johnson and her husband, Kenneth; to his grandchildren, Thalassia
11 Mombeleur and her husband, Yves, Amena Babers-Dews and her husband,
12 Calvin, Lakendra Lewis, and Angela Guinn; to his six
13 great-grandchildren and his 13 nieces and nephews; and to his other
14 relatives and many friends; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
17 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. James
18 E. Guinn III.