

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 450

In Memory
of
David John Barker

WHEREAS, Family, friends, and colleagues are mourning the loss of David John Barker of Fort Worth, who died on February 19, 2009, at the age of 69; and

WHEREAS, The son of a Presbyterian minister and a telephone operator, David Barker was born on Long Island, New York, on November 13, 1939; he attended Hofstra University and earned a doctorate in neurobiology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and

WHEREAS, In 1977, Dr. Barker was recruited as one of the original faculty members of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Worth, now part of the University of North Texas Health Science Center; and

WHEREAS, For nearly three decades, he taught neurobiology and neurophysiology in the medical, graduate, and physician's assistant programs at the school; a dynamic and innovative teacher, Dr. Barker often enlivened his classes with humor, sometimes wearing a ZZ Top beard to class and introducing students to the parts of the brain with a musical clip from the cartoon *Pinkie and the Brain*; he retired from teaching in 2005; and

WHEREAS, David Barker earned the lasting respect and affection of his students and colleagues, and he leaves behind a legacy to treasure for those who held him dear; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the life of David John Barker and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his daughters, Karen Barker and Laurie Barker James and her husband, Jason; to their mother, Ronnie Carlton Barker; to his grandchildren, Rick and Kaylie; to his brother, Richard Barker; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

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 David John Barker.

Davis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 18, 2009, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate