

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 591

In Memory
of
Harold Patterson

WHEREAS, Residents of Arlington lost a beloved neighbor and admired community leader with the passing of Harold Patterson on March 20, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Described as instrumental in the development of Arlington, Mr. Patterson began his service on the city council in 1966, and he became mayor pro tempore in 1977; elected mayor in 1983, he demonstrated exceptional leadership that helped guide the city through a period of explosive population growth; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his political career, Mr. Patterson stressed unity, a message well-received by both voters and his fellow elected officials; Arlington earned its first AA Bond rating under his able guidance, helping to generate decades of savings for taxpayers; moreover, he worked to expand funding for new streets in the city, and his efforts to fluoridate the local water supply led to improved dental health for area residents; and

WHEREAS, After retirement, he went on to start his own property tax consulting business, and he was later appointed to a position on the Tarrant Appraisal Review Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Patterson further distinguished himself through his participation with the Arlington Community Hospital board of directors, the Education Advisory Board of the Arlington Independent School District, and the Parks and Recreation Board and as president of the Arlington Boys Club, Lions Club, and Arlington Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Known as "Mr. Arlington," he was presented a number of accolades for his service to the community; in addition to receiving the Outstanding Young Man of Arlington and Citizen of the Year awards, he was recognized by the city, which dedicated the Harold Patterson Sports Center in South Arlington in his honor; and

WHEREAS, A man of great vision and enormous ability, Harold Patterson represented his fellow citizens with skill and commitment, and his actions mirrored his concern for the welfare of each member of society; although he will be deeply missed, he leaves behind a remarkable legacy that will benefit Arlington residents for years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the life of Arlington civic leader and former mayor Harold Patterson and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife, Frances Louise; to his son, Michael; to his daughter, Teresa; to his six grandchildren; to his great-granddaughter; and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

S.R. No. 591

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 Harold Patterson.

Davis, Harris

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 6, 2009, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate