

By: Gonzales of Hidalgo

H.R. No. 58

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of McAllen lost a beloved civic leader with
2 the untimely death of Oscar Raul Cardenas on May 13, 2011, at the
3 age of 50; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in McAllen on July 3, 1960, Mr. Cardenas was the
5 son of Dardanella and Ruben Cardenas; he was diagnosed with
6 muscular dystrophy as a youngster and used a wheelchair from
7 childhood, but he never let the condition define him; throughout
8 his life, his courage, determination, and boundless enthusiasm left
9 an indelible impression on all who encountered him; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Cardenas completed his bachelor's degree in
11 accounting at Texas A&M University and returned to McAllen, where
12 he worked for the Long, Chilton firm before embarking on an
13 entrepreneurial path; he eventually employed more than 100 people
14 at his two companies, Medical Accounts Receivable Services and the
15 Copy It Printing Center, and he was a caring mentor to the members
16 of his staff, as well as to numerous members of his community; for
17 everyone he met, he had a bright smile and encouraging word, and his
18 character, intellect, and sense of humor endeared him to a host of
19 friends; and

20 WHEREAS, This admired businessman served in myriad
21 leadership roles, including as president of the McAllen Easter
22 Seals, Jaycees, and Better Business Bureau, as well as of the
23 Muscular Dystrophy Association of the Rio Grande Valley and of the
24 Valley Association of Independent Living; in addition, he served as

1 chair of the Food Bank of the Rio Grande Valley and director of the
2 Museum of South Texas History, and he was a member of the finance
3 committee for the McAllen Airport Advisory Board; he was also the
4 treasurer of Our Lady of Sorrows Church; in 2008, he was named
5 Easter Seals Humanitarian of the Year, and he was named 2004 Man of
6 the Year by the McAllen Chamber of Commerce; moreover, he received
7 the MDA State of Texas Individual Achievement Award and the Texas
8 State Independent Living Council Outstanding Individual
9 Achievement Award, among many other accolades; and

10 WHEREAS, Oscar Cardenas brought joy to innumerable people and
11 surmounted enormous challenges in order to make a lasting, positive
12 difference in the world around him; although he will be deeply
13 missed, his compassion, generosity, and devotion to his loved ones
14 and his community will forever remain a source of inspiration; now,
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
17 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Oscar Raul Cardenas
18 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his
19 devoted wife of 19 years, Dora Cardenas; to his parents, Dardanella
20 and Ruben Cardenas; to his brother, Dr. Carlos J. Cardenas, and his
21 wife, Chris; to his sister, Diana Albrecht, and her husband, Cecil;
22 to his nieces and nephews, Adam, Simon, and Daniel Cardenas and
23 Hilary, Miles, and Emily Albrecht; to his aunt, Sylvia Cardenas; to
24 his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Josefina and Jose Castillo; to
25 his sister-in-law, Julia Perez, and her husband, Edgar, and their
26 daughters, Christina, Jessica, and Amanda; to his brother-in-law,
27 Jaime Castillo, and his son, Johann; and to his other relatives and

1 many friends; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
4 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Oscar Raul
5 Cardenas.