

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 68

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Friends and family are mourning the loss of John V.
2 Spikes of Hunt, who passed away on April 15, 2010, at the age of 73;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Amarillo on February 24, 1937, John Spikes
5 earned bachelor's and master's degrees in geophysics and taught at
6 the University of Minnesota before accepting an offer from IBM; he
7 spent more than 25 years with the company as a systems engineer,
8 product manager, marketing manager, and financial services
9 liaison, and many of his former employees have recalled the
10 positive impact he had on their careers; subsequent to his tenure
11 with IBM, he became a product director for Continental Airlines;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Spikes began to work with children and young
14 adults after retiring to the Texas Hill Country; he was involved
15 with the Ignite SystemsGo Aerospace program at Fredericksburg
16 High School, which challenges students to design, build, and
17 successfully launch a rocket one mile into the air; he then
18 introduced the program to the Ingram Independent School District,
19 and it is now a part of the curriculum there; and

20 WHEREAS, A volunteer at Greystone Preparatory School in
21 Kerrville, Mr. Spikes mentored students seeking an appointment to
22 one of the five United States service academies, and he further
23 distinguished himself as a member of the Greystone advisory board;
24 in addition, he was elected to the Hunt Independent School District

1 Board of Trustees, determined to expand educational offerings in
2 math and science and improve technology in the classroom;
3 administrators at Hunt ISD will continue his important work with
4 the John Spikes Technology Initiative, which was created through
5 donations made in his honor after his passing; and

6 WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, Mr. Spikes enjoyed the love
7 and support of his wife, Virginia, and his children, Jeff and Susan;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, John Spikes was an outstanding businessman and a
10 devoted community leader, and he touched the lives of not only those
11 who knew him best but also countless young men and women who
12 benefited from his efforts in their schools; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of John V. Spikes and
15 extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,
16 Virginia; to his son, Jeff, and his wife, Crystal; to his daughter,
17 Susan; to his grandchildren; and to his other relatives and
18 friends; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of John V.
22 Spikes.