

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 369

In Memory
of
Joe R. Greenhill

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of the Honorable Joe R. Greenhill, who died February 11, 2011, at the age of 96; and

WHEREAS, Judge Joe R. Greenhill was the longest-serving Texas Supreme Court justice in the court's history; he was appointed by Governor Price Daniel in 1957 and served as chief justice from 1972 to 1982; and

WHEREAS, Judge Greenhill was born in Houston on July 14, 1914; he held a law degree from The University of Texas at Austin, where he graduated at the top of his class; he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and served as editor of the university's yearbook and the *Texas Law Review*; he began his legal career as a briefing attorney for the Texas Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, During World War II, he served four years on active duty, first in naval intelligence and then as executive officer on a fleet minesweeper in the Pacific Ocean; and

WHEREAS, He served as First Assistant Attorney General of Texas from 1948 to 1950 and was involved in many major cases, some of which were argued before the United States Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, He was a partner in the law firm of Graves, Dougherty, and Greenhill in Austin from 1950 to 1957, when he was appointed to the Texas Supreme Court; after retiring from the court in 1982, he became of counsel with the law firm Baker Botts in Austin; a highly respected attorney and jurist, Judge Greenhill was active in numerous professional and civic associations; he served as executive director of the Texas Bar Foundation and was a member of the Warren W. Burger Society and the Order of Saint John's; he also received the Gold Medal Award from the Freedom Foundation; and

WHEREAS, A distinguished gentleman, Judge Greenhill was a significant force in the legal community, and he was greatly admired and respected by all who knew him; he was a member of Saint David's Episcopal Church in Austin and served as vestryman and senior warden; and

WHEREAS, He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, and he leaves behind memories that will be treasured forever by his family and many friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the life of Judge Joe R. Greenhill and extend sincere condolences to his bereaved family:

his wife of 70 years, Martha; his sons and daughter-in-law, Joe Greenhill, Jr., and Bill and Ann Greenhill; and his four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of the Honorable Joe R. Greenhill.

Watson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 28, 2011, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate