

By: Patrick

H.R. No. 40

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with joyful times and  
2 meaningful accomplishments remain to comfort the family and friends  
3 of esteemed educator William T. Bryant, Jr., of Arlington, who  
4 passed away on November 18, 2011, at the age of 78; and

5           WHEREAS, Bill Bryant was born on August 27, 1933, in Graham,  
6 the only child of William Truman and Margaret Slay Bryant; after  
7 graduating in 1952 from Graham High School, where he played the  
8 trumpet in the school band, he earned a business education degree  
9 from North Texas State University in 1956; and

10           WHEREAS, Mr. Bryant served his country in the United States  
11 Army for two years and spent an additional two years in the Army  
12 Reserve; while working at General Dynamics, he decided to become a  
13 teacher and began attending night school at Texas Wesleyan  
14 University in order to earn a master's degree in education; and

15           WHEREAS, Bill Bryant embarked on his new career in the early  
16 1960s, when he accepted a position at George C. Clarke Elementary  
17 School in Fort Worth; in 1966, while moonlighting as an adult basic  
18 education instructor, he met Margie Ferguson, another Fort Worth  
19 teacher, and the two were married on June 30, 1968; two years later  
20 they moved to Arlington, where Mr. Bryant joined the staff of Hill  
21 Elementary as a teacher and as an assistant principal; promoted to  
22 principal and transferred to Speer Elementary in 1971, he remained  
23 at that campus for 11 years; he subsequently served as principal of  
24 Swift Elementary until his retirement in 1992; and

1           WHEREAS, Throughout his career, Mr. Bryant enjoyed  
2 collaborating with teachers and parents to ensure that his school's  
3 students received the best possible education, and in 1993, he and  
4 his wife were recognized by the Arlington Independent School  
5 District with the naming of an elementary school in their honor; and

6           WHEREAS, A longtime congregant and deacon at First Baptist  
7 Church Arlington, Mr. Bryant was also a member of the Arlington  
8 Retired School Employees Association and a master Mason in the  
9 Young County lodge for more than half a century; his concern for  
10 others, his sense of humor, and his honesty and trustworthiness won  
11 him a host of friends and admirers; and

12           WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to his profession, Bill Bryant made a  
13 positive impact on countless lives, and he will forever be held  
14 close in the hearts of those fortunate to have shared in his love  
15 and friendship; now, therefore, be it

16           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
17 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of William T. Bryant,  
18 Jr., and extend sincere sympathy to his wife of 43 years, Margie  
19 Ferguson Bryant, and to his other relatives and many friends; and,  
20 be it further

21           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
22 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
23 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of William  
24 T. Bryant, Jr.