

By: Nevarez

H.R. No. 387

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, An eminent jurist and a respected civic leader,
2 State District Judge Carl Pendergrass, Jr., passed away on January
3 13, 2013, at the age of 69; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Victoria on October 29, 1943, to Carl
5 Pendergrass, Sr., and Belle Matthews, Carl Pendergrass played
6 defensive tackle for Palacios High School and helped guide his team
7 to the state championship football game; he was offered a football
8 scholarship but instead chose to attend Texas A&M University, where
9 he majored in accounting and became a proud member of the Corps of
10 Cadets and the Marine Corps Reserve; during his summers, he
11 supported himself in the oil field, picking cotton on Southeast
12 Texas farms, and shrimping in the Gulf of Mexico before hitchhiking
13 his way back to College Station to continue his studies; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1965, Mr. Pendergrass married Carol Halamicek,
15 and after his graduation from A&M, the couple moved to Houston;
16 there, Mr. Pendergrass worked at Superior Oil Company by day and
17 attended law school at South Texas College of Law at night; and

18 WHEREAS, He began his law career in Del Rio in 1970; in
19 addition to serving as county attorney from 1971 to 1978, he opened
20 a private practice; he had accumulated nearly three decades of
21 experience when he was tapped to serve as the 83rd Judicial District
22 Court judge by Governor George W. Bush in 1999, and he remained in
23 that post until his passing; during his time on the bench, he was
24 committed to ensuring that all who entered his court received a fair

1 and compassionate decision; and

2 WHEREAS, This dedicated public servant further distinguished
3 himself through his involvement in his community; he served as the
4 Worshipful Master of the Val Verde Masonic Lodge No. 646, and he
5 shared his time and expertise with the Val Verde Hospital Board and
6 the Del Rio Housing Authority; moreover, he was a member of the
7 Lions Club and the Elks Lodge, and he was an enthusiastic supporter
8 of local 4-H youth; and

9 WHEREAS, A man of numerous talents and hobbies, he raised
10 cattle and goats on his farm, owned several racehorses, and earned a
11 pilot's license; he also took pleasure in fishing, hunting,
12 gardening, and barbecuing, and he always delighted in cheering on
13 his beloved Aggies; in all of his endeavors, Judge Pendergrass
14 enjoyed the love and support of his wife and their 4 children, and
15 he was proud to welcome 12 grandchildren into his family; and

16 WHEREAS, Carl Pendergrass served the people of South Texas
17 with dedication and integrity, and he leaves behind a legacy that
18 will forever be treasured by all those whose lives he touched; now,
19 therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
21 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Carl Pendergrass,
22 Jr., and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to
23 his wife, Carol Pendergrass; to his children, Lisa Rogenes and her
24 husband, Dr. Vince Rogenes, Dr. Douglas Pendergrass and his wife,
25 Toni, David Pendergrass, and John Pendergrass and his wife,
26 Rebecca; to his grandchildren, Jenson, Jonathan, and Mila Rogenes,
27 and Douglas, Raylee, Hadley, Savannah, Kati, Aiden, Bannon,

1 Elizabeth, and John Reed Pendergrass; to his mother, Belle
2 Matthews; to his sisters, Patsy Metting and Carol Ann Petrakos; to
3 his aunt, Josie Lenz; to his uncle, Arthur Lenz, and his wife, Mary;
4 and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
6 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
7 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of the
8 Honorable Carl Pendergrass, Jr.