

By: Smithee

H.C.R. No. 87

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, The certain knowledge of a life well lived may  
2 comfort those saddened by the death of Gene Earl Parker of Amarillo  
3 on September 19, 2014, at the age of 76; and

4           WHEREAS, Born on July 24, 1938, in Tahoka, Gene Parker was the  
5 ninth of 10 children born to John and Patriel Parker; after  
6 graduating from Happy High School in 1956, he went on to attend West  
7 Texas State College, and he earned a bachelor's degree and a  
8 master's degree in Spanish and educational administration; and

9           WHEREAS, Mr. Parker worked for the Shamrock Oil Company for a  
10 brief time before embarking on a career as an educator with the  
11 Edgewood Independent School District in the mid-1960s; he taught in  
12 the Sunray Independent School District for several years, and in  
13 1972, he became the superintendent of schools for the Wildorado  
14 Independent School District; named the director of career planning  
15 and placement at West Texas State University in 1974, he spent  
16 nearly two decades in that position until his retirement in 1993;  
17 and

18           WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan served three terms as a Randall  
19 County commissioner, and during that time, he played an  
20 instrumental role in the establishment of the Texas Panhandle War  
21 Memorial in Amarillo; he also shared his time and talents with a  
22 number of civic organizations, including the United Way of Amarillo  
23 and Canyon, the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce, the Texas Aviation  
24 Historical Society Board, the Panhandle Judges and Commissioners

1 Association, and the Panhandle Plains Higher Education Authority; a  
2 man of faith, he was an active member of the congregation at  
3 Paramount Baptist Church, where he taught Sunday school for many  
4 years; and

5 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Parker was blessed with  
6 the love and support of his wife, Peggy, with whom he shared more  
7 than 54 years; together, they raised four children, Del, Carmen,  
8 Pam, and Mitch, and later welcomed into their family five  
9 grandchildren; in addition to playing games with his grandkids,  
10 Mr. Parker enjoyed working on the family farm, flying planes, and  
11 square dancing; and

12 WHEREAS, Those fortunate enough to have known Gene Parker  
13 will remember the way he touched their lives with his generosity and  
14 optimism, and he will forever hold a treasured place in their  
15 hearts; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas  
17 hereby pay tribute to the memory of Gene Earl Parker and extend  
18 sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife, Peggy  
19 Parker; to his daughter, Pam Barrett, and her husband, Jay; to his  
20 son, Mitch Parker, and his wife, Kate; to his grandchildren,  
21 Parker, Jeron, and Trey Barrett, and Charlotte and Will Parker; to  
22 his sisters, Irene Hopper and Ruth Barrett; to his brothers, Johnny  
23 Parker and his wife, Verbie, and Don Parker and his wife, Jeane; and  
24 to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
26 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
27 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of

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1 Gene Earl Parker.