

By: Hughes

H.R. No. 167

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends will long cherish their memories
2 of James Wesley Utley of Mineola, who passed away on September 17,
3 2014, at the age of 83; and

4 WHEREAS, This lifelong Texan was born on April 28, 1931, in
5 Gordon; Mr. Utley lived in De Leon and Sweetwater before moving in
6 1956 to Mineola, where he resided for the rest of his life; he and
7 his wife, Frances, shared a marriage that spanned 63 years, and the
8 couple raised four children, Rickey, Wendell, Latrena, and Sheila;
9 Mr. Utley attended church at the First Assembly of God in Mineola;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, At the age of 17, Mr. Utley began his career with the
12 railroad system; he worked for the Texas and Pacific Railway
13 Company and stayed on when the company joined with the Missouri
14 Pacific Railroad in 1976; he also continued in his vocation when the
15 MPR was approved to merge with the Union Pacific Railroad in 1982;
16 in December 1990, Mr. Utley retired after more than 42 years of
17 unwavering service; and

18 WHEREAS, Known affectionately as "Big Jim," James Utley
19 enjoyed a life that was rich in the intangibles that matter most,
20 and he is deeply missed by all those who held him dear; now,
21 therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
23 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of James Wesley Utley
24 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his

1 wife, Frances Utley; to his sons, Rickey Utley and his wife, Wanda,
2 and Wendell Utley and his wife, Allison; to his daughters, Latrena
3 Buchanan and her friend, Ricky Ramirez, and Sheila Valek and her
4 husband, Darren; to his grandchildren, Klo, Justin, Caleb, Daniel,
5 Brittney, Andrea, Cassie, and Hannah; to his great-grandchildren,
6 Lane and Katherine; to his caretaker, Jeannie Moore; and to his
7 other relatives and friends; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
10 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of James
11 Wesley Utley.