

By: Nevárez

H.R. No. 840

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The residents of Del Rio lost an admired public
2 servant and community leader with the passing of the Honorable
3 Joseph Michael Gonzalez, justice of the peace of Precinct 2, on
4 August 16, 2013, at the age of 67; and

5 WHEREAS, Born on October 29, 1945, in Centerline, Michigan,
6 Joey Gonzalez was the son of Amalia Gonzalez Forehand, his birth
7 mother, and County Judge Sergio Gonzalez Jr. and Ninfa R. Gonzalez;
8 he graduated from Mount Sacred Heart Military Academy in San
9 Antonio and went on to attend St. Anthony's Seminary School; and

10 WHEREAS, Judge Gonzalez spent most of his professional life
11 as a railroad conductor, first for Southern Pacific and later for
12 Union Pacific, and he retired after 34 years of service; in 2002, he
13 purchased Meme's Kleen Kitchen restaurant, a local favorite for
14 more than 50 years, and made it his goal to ensure that every
15 customer who entered the family-run business left with a smile; and

16 WHEREAS, For a decade, this esteemed gentleman further
17 distinguished himself as the justice of the peace of Precinct 2, and
18 he was also involved with many civic organizations, underscoring
19 his commitment to the community; he helped coordinate Career
20 Awareness Day for the public schools and Sacred Heart Catholic
21 School, and he volunteered with the area MLK march, the youth
22 football and cheer teams, and local veterans; additionally, he was
23 the first Mexican American union president for Union Pacific, and
24 he was active with the Knights of Columbus, among other groups; and

1 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Judge Gonzalez enjoyed the
2 love and support of his wife of 45 years, Martha; he delighted in
3 spending time with his children and grandchildren, and he was a
4 valued, lifelong member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church; and

5 WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to his family and his community,
6 Joseph Michael Gonzalez made a meaningful difference in the lives
7 of his loved ones and fellow citizens alike, and he will be fondly
8 remembered for years to come; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of the Honorable
11 Joseph Michael Gonzalez and extend heartfelt sympathy to the
12 members of his family: to his wife, Martha Ziegler Gonzalez; to his
13 biological mother, Amalia Gonzalez Forehand; to his children,
14 Carolina Gonzalez Ortiz, Jose Sergio Gonzalez, Azalea Gonzalez,
15 Sebastian Seth Gonzalez, Sandra Moncada, Joey Gonzalez, and Maria
16 Cecilia Gonzalez; to his grandchildren, Mia Lizette, Zoey Olivia,
17 and Eliseo Adan Ortiz, and Joey and Riley Gonzalez; to his sisters,
18 Jennie Owens and Rosie Phillips; to his brother, Oscar Gonzalez;
19 and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Joseph
23 Michael Gonzalez.