

By: Flynn

H.R. No. 2041

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life dedicated to the service of his nation and his
2 community drew to a close with the death of former Hopkins County
3 sheriff Billy G. Dirks on March 27, 2015, at the age of 81; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on January 12, 1934, to Dillard and Edna Dirks,
5 Billy Dirks grew up in Lamar County; he joined the United States Air
6 Force and then the army, serving in both the Korean and the Vietnam
7 Wars and earning the Bronze Star, among many other commendations;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Dirks retired after 27 years of service to his
10 nation and moved to Sulphur Springs; he was hired by the Hopkins
11 County Sheriff's Office in the early 1980s, beginning an exemplary
12 tenure with the department that spanned 16 years; named chief
13 deputy in 1988, he was appointed sheriff two years later and was
14 elected to a full term in 1992, earning the distinction of being the
15 county's first African American sheriff; he subsequently worked as
16 the director of the alternative school at the North Hopkins County
17 School; and

18 WHEREAS, A man of deep religious faith, Mr. Dirks was a
19 longtime member of the MLK Church of Christ; in all his endeavors,
20 he enjoyed the love and support of his wife, the former Delores
21 White, his children, Gia, Tracie, and Derek, and his five
22 grandchildren; and

23 WHEREAS, A devoted family man, an outstanding public servant,
24 and an inspiring mentor, Billy Dirks earned the admiration of all

1 who knew him, and he leaves behind a record of service that his
2 loved ones can remember with pride; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
4 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Billy G. Dirks and
5 extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his
6 wife, Delores Dirks; to his children, Gia Pleasant and her husband,
7 Charles, Tracie Rand and her husband, Tony, and Derek Dirks; to his
8 five grandchildren; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be
9 it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
12 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Billy
13 G. Dirks.