

By: Sanford

H.R. No. 3177

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A caring and purposeful life drew to a close with the
2 passing of Kenneth Eugene Blackburn of Celina on April 13, 2015, at
3 the age of 72; and

4 WHEREAS, Born to Randall and Ruth Blackburn on September 21,
5 1942, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Ken Blackburn attended William
6 Penn High School, where he took part in school plays and excelled at
7 football, baseball, and basketball; he went on to play
8 semiprofessional football and enjoyed a successful career in the
9 electrical industry; as a sales manager, he traveled widely and
10 lived in numerous states before finally settling down in Celina;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Blackburn married his high school sweetheart,
13 the former Shirley Estright, on October 29, 1960, and the couple
14 became the proud parents of four daughters, Lorraine, Charlotte,
15 Jeannette, and Yvonne, and a son, Joseph; as the years passed, they
16 took great delight in welcoming to their family 10 grandchildren,
17 Brett, Nicole, Renee, Tyler, Shaun, Erika, Courtney, Yvonne, Kenny,
18 and Timothy, and 5 great-grandchildren, Tinsley, Caleb, Major,
19 Colten, and Graham; and

20 WHEREAS, An active and respected member of his community,
21 Mr. Blackburn served as the sergeant at arms of the Preston Trails
22 Rotary Club, and he was a valued congregant of Bethel Baptist Church
23 in Celina; he had previously dedicated his time and talents to
24 AMBUCS and the Harrisburg Boys & Girls Club while living in

1 Pennsylvania; and

2 WHEREAS, Beloved for his exceptional loyalty, his vibrant
3 smile, and his warm and generous nature, Ken Blackburn lived life to
4 the fullest, and those who were privileged to share in his love and
5 affection will forever hold him close in their hearts; now,
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
8 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Ken Blackburn and
9 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife of
10 54 years, Shirley Blackburn; to his daughters, Lorraine Ehret,
11 Charlotte Ruffle and her husband, Mike, and Jeannette Ezell and her
12 husband, Sherman; to his grandchildren, Brett Ehret and his wife,
13 Britney, Nicole Martin and her husband, Dane, Renee Jones and her
14 husband, Dirik, Shaun Ehret, Tyler and Erika Ruffle, and Courtney,
15 Yvonne, and Kenny Ezell; to his great-grandchildren, Tinsley Ehret,
16 Caleb and Colten Martin, and Major and Graham Jones; to his
17 siblings, George Blackburn and his wife, Betty, Toni Graves and her
18 husband, Eric, Sandy Goss, and Steven Blackburn and his wife, Olga;
19 and to his other relatives and many 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 Kenneth
23 Eugene Blackburn.