

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 278

In Memory
of
Gerald Lee Kunkle

WHEREAS, The citizens of Collin County lost an admired public servant with the passing of Constable Gerald Lee Kunkle on February 13, 2015, at the age of 76; and

WHEREAS, Born on February 14, 1938, in Shreveport, Louisiana, Jerry Kunkle was the son of Benjamin and Helen Kunkle; he served for three years with the military police in the United States Marine Corps, where he was stationed in Honolulu and excelled at playing football for the corps; after he was discharged in 1959, he returned home and attended the University of North Texas on a football scholarship; he married the former Hannah Dungan on October 3, 1961, and the couple raised four children; and

WHEREAS, Constable Kunkle began working for Collin County as a deputy sheriff in 1962 and was soon promoted to chief deputy; he worked briefly as a radio station manager before returning to work for the county as an adult probation officer in 1971, eventually reassuming the role of chief deputy; in 1979, he was appointed to the office of Precinct 1 constable, and he continued to be reelected to that position until his retirement in 2008; over the course of a tenure that spanned nearly three decades, a number of new programs were launched, including the establishment of the warrant division; he was named Texas Constable of the Year in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Further contributing to his professional community, Constable Kunkle served as president of the Justices

of the Peace and Constables Association of Texas, and he received the association's highest honor, the T. A. Vines Award, in 2003; and

WHEREAS, A devoted family man and a dedicated public servant, Jerry Kunkle will be deeply missed, but the integrity and optimism with which he lived his life will forever inspire all who had the good fortune to know him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 84th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Constable Gerald Lee Kunkle and extend heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife, Hannah Kunkle; to his children, Mark, Kimberly, and Matt Kunkle and Keri Hardin; to his grandchildren, Mason, Morgan, Miles, and Mendel Kunkle and Hayden Hardin; to his great-grandson, Hagen Kunkle; to his stepfather, Edward R. McGehee; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jerry Kunkle.

Taylor of Collin

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 2, 2015, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate