

By: Burrows

H.R. No. 20

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of Lubbock lost a venerated entrepreneur
2 and philanthropist with the passing of Bobbie Ray Griffin on June 7,
3 2017, at the age of 87; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Matador at the height of the Great
5 Depression, "Rip" Griffin learned the value of hard work at a young
6 age through a series of jobs that included delivering newspapers
7 and driving a truck; he graduated from Lubbock High School in 1948
8 and subsequently played semiprofessional baseball in a traveling
9 oil league, and he continued in the sport while serving his country
10 for four years as a member of the United States Army; following his
11 honorable discharge in 1953, he enrolled at Texas Tech University,
12 where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration in
13 1955; while a student, he kept the books for a trailer company and
14 transported gasoline; and

15 WHEREAS, After college, Mr. Griffin worked for Texaco before
16 opening his first truck stop in Lubbock in 1962; two years later, he
17 founded the Rip Griffin Truck Service Center, and he eventually
18 expanded the business to include not only a chain of truck stops
19 across the western United States but also a number of truck
20 dealerships; in 1989, he ventured into wholesale fuel storage and
21 transportation with the establishment of Pro Petroleum; and

22 WHEREAS, Believing deeply in the value of both education and
23 sports, Mr. Griffin gave freely of his time and resources in behalf
24 of Lubbock Christian University, on whose board of trustees he

1 served for 42 years, and Texas Tech University; his loyal support
2 was recognized with the dedication of the Rip Griffin Center by LCU
3 in 2000 and Rip Griffin Park by Tech in 2012; he was also a faithful
4 sponsor of the Lubbock Hubbers professional baseball club and a
5 staunch advocate of the Children's Home of Lubbock and the Boys &
6 Girls Club of Lubbock, which inducted him into its Alumni Hall of
7 Fame in 2009; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Griffin was a devoted husband to his wife,
9 Geneva, and over the decades, their union was blessed with 5
10 children, David, Mark, Julie, Jill, and Suzanne, as well as 14
11 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren; and

12 WHEREAS, A man of great warmth, humility, and generosity, Rip
13 Griffin left an indelible imprint on Lubbock and touched the lives
14 of countless fellow citizens, and those who were fortunate enough
15 to share in his love and friendship will forever hold him close in
16 their hearts; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
18 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
19 Bobbie Ray Griffin and extend heartfelt sympathy to the members of
20 his family: to his wife, Geneva Griffin; to his children, David
21 Griffin and his wife, Lorna, Mark Griffin and his wife, Claudia,
22 Julie Pointer and her husband, Steve, Jill Patterson and her
23 husband, Bill, and Suzanne Knipp and her husband, Jeff; to his
24 grandchildren, Ryan, Elizabeth, Michael, and Jeffrey Griffin,
25 Lauren Hamel, Emily Owen, Keeli Garza, Clay and Koby Pointer,
26 Hunter, Hayden, and Houston Patterson, and Heather Guerry; to his
27 eight great-grandchildren; and to his many other relatives and

1 friends; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
4 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Bobbie Ray
5 Griffin.