

By: González of El Paso

H.R. No. 153

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family and friends will long cherish their memories  
2 of Donald Lewis Benton of El Paso, who passed away on July 18, 2017,  
3 at the age of 80; and

4           WHEREAS, The son of Freida Ivey and Lewis Benton, Donald  
5 Benton was born on December 29, 1936, and he was raised by his  
6 grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Ivey, in Fabens; he graduated from  
7 New Mexico Military Institute before continuing his education at  
8 Texas Tech University and Sul Ross State University, where he  
9 earned his bachelor of science and master of engineering degrees;  
10 he completed a second master's degree at Sam Houston State  
11 University, and he answered his nation's call to duty as a member of  
12 the United States Army; during his two years of military service, he  
13 was assigned to work in bioacoustic research at the Walter Reed Army  
14 Medical Center in Washington, D.C.; and

15           WHEREAS, After returning to civilian life, Mr. Benton worked  
16 as a teacher and coach in Fort Hancock, Tornillo, Socorro, and  
17 Clint, and he was admired by his students for his enthusiasm and  
18 sense of humor; and

19           WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Benton enjoyed the love  
20 and support of his wife, Betty, and their treasured family, which  
21 included his three daughters, Penny, Brenda, and Wray, and his four  
22 stepchildren, Shawndi, Stacy, Shelly, and Scott; his life was  
23 further enriched by his nine grandchildren and two  
24 great-grandchildren; in his leisure hours, he was fond of fishing,

1 hunting, and spending time at his lake house at Elephant Butte; a  
2 member of the Masons for more than five decades, he held the title  
3 of Worshipful Master at his local lodge from 2006 to 2009 and also  
4 belonged to the Grand Scottish Rite and the Grand Lodge of Texas;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Donald Benton led a full and generous life, and  
7 although he will be greatly missed, he will always be remembered  
8 with deep affection by those who had the good fortune to know him;  
9 now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
11 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
12 Donald Lewis Benton and extend sincere sympathy to the members of  
13 his family: to his wife, Betty Benton; to his daughters, Penny  
14 Hilliard and her husband, Michael, Brenda Prestangen and her  
15 husband, Kyle, and Wray Jean Chavez and her husband, Adrian; to his  
16 stepchildren, Shawndi Hickman and her husband, Grant, Stacy Smith  
17 and her husband, Johnny, Shelly Hurley and her husband, Jared, and  
18 Scott Smith; to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren; to his  
19 brothers, Rodger Benton and Leonard Benton; and to his other  
20 relatives and friends; and, be it further

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