

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 448

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Memories of a life well lived remain to comfort the
2 many loved ones and friends of Sam Carl Guess of Houston, who passed
3 away on February 1, 2017, at the age of 53; and

4 WHEREAS, A native of the Bayou City, Sam Guess was born on
5 February 16, 1963, to John and Freddie Johnson Guess; from an early
6 age, he recognized that his calling was in the family funeral
7 business, and he went on to become the first member of his
8 generation to lead Johnson Funeral Home when he took over as chief
9 operating officer in 1985; in addition to drawing on the advice and
10 experience of previous managers, he earned a business degree from
11 Xavier University in New Orleans and completed internships at two
12 other mortuaries; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Guess comforted thousands of families during
14 his more than three decades as a funeral director and business
15 manager; he was also a significant voice in his industry as a member
16 of the Houston Metropolitan Funeral Directors Association, the
17 Houston and National Funeral Directors and Morticians
18 Associations, and the Independent Funeral Directors Association of
19 Texas, and he served as board president of the Fred C. Johnson
20 Foundation, which to date has raised over \$150,000 in funds for
21 scholarships; and

22 WHEREAS, This caring gentleman was the loving husband of
23 Susan Harvey Guess, his wife of 24 years, and the proud father of
24 two sons, Sam Elliott and Stephen; admired for his sparkling sense

1 of humor, he cultivated a wide circle of friends from around the
2 country and enjoyed playing golf, skiing, and visiting Chicago and
3 New York City; deeply devoted to his faith, he was an active member
4 of Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ; and

5 WHEREAS, Sam Guess was a kind, generous, and hardworking man
6 who accomplished much and touched the lives of countless people
7 along the way, and he leaves behind a legacy that will continue to
8 inspire all those who had the good fortune to know him; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Sam Carl Guess and
12 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,
13 Susan Harvey Guess; to his sons, Sam Elliott and Stephen Guess; and
14 to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
17 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Sam Guess.