

By: Turner

H.R. No. 1968

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Arlington are mourning the loss of
2 Dr. Norman Lee Robinson, senior pastor of Mount Olive Baptist
3 Church, who passed away on April 28, 2017, at the age of 96; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Lee and Gollie McCoin Robinson,
5 N. L. Robinson was born on February 23, 1921, in Sanger and grew up
6 in Palmer; he bravely defended his country as a member of the
7 U.S. Army during World War II, and he was honorably discharged in
8 1945; his service was recognized with an Asiatic-Pacific Campaign
9 Medal with a Bronze Star seven decades later; and

10 WHEREAS, Returning stateside, Dr. Robinson accepted a
11 position with the Dallas Housing Authority, where he worked until
12 his retirement in 1976; to further the spiritual journey that he had
13 begun on Guadalcanal Island during the war, he earned a degree from
14 the Southern Bible Institute of Dallas in 1962; and

15 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan became a member of the clergy at
16 St. John Baptist Church in Grand Prairie and pastored Lucille
17 Missionary Baptist Church in Palmer before being called to the
18 pulpit at Mount Olive in 1966; the church thrived under his
19 leadership, growing from 17 members to more than 12,000 and
20 developing a range of initiatives of benefit to the community; and

21 WHEREAS, Over the years, Dr. Robinson received numerous
22 accolades; he was awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree and
23 keys to the cities of Arlington and Grand Prairie, and he received
24 letters of commendation from Presidents Ronald Reagan and Bill

1 Clinton; in 1992, North West Street in Arlington was renamed
2 N. L. Robinson Drive in his honor; and

3 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Dr. Robinson enjoyed the love
4 and support of his wife, Pearl, with whom he shared more than 65
5 years of marriage until her death in 2014; he was the proud father
6 of three daughters, Norma Faye, Maynell, and Gwen, and he cherished
7 the time he spent with his numerous grandchildren; and

8 WHEREAS, An admired spiritual leader, N. L. Robinson made a
9 positive difference in the lives of his loved ones and fellow
10 citizens alike, and his contributions will continue to resonate for
11 years to come; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Dr. Norman Lee
14 Robinson and extend sincere best wishes to his relatives and
15 friends; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
18 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of
19 Dr. N. L. Robinson.