

By: Gooden

H.R. No. 2539

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to
2 a close with the passing of assistant fire chief James Dwight
3 Barkham Jr. of Forney on November 28, 2016, at the age of 56; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Dallas on December 30, 1959, Jamie Barkham
5 was the son of Jim and Ninva Barkham and the brother of Cindy,
6 Laurie, and Jeanine; he graduated from Skyline High School in 1978
7 and subsequently earned an associate degree in applied arts and
8 science; he went on to work at Steakley Chevrolet for two decades
9 before accepting a position with Southwest Airlines, where he
10 served as a ground support equipment and plant maintenance mechanic
11 for 18 years; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Barkham joined the Forney Fire Department as a
13 volunteer firefighter in January 1987, and over the years, he
14 steadily advanced through the ranks, serving in a number of
15 leadership roles before earning promotion to assistant chief; in
16 honor of his exemplary efforts, he was named Firefighter of the Year
17 multiple times; he was also presented with a Life Saving Award and a
18 CareFlite letter of recognition, and in 2013, he received a
19 certificate of excellence from Texas State Senator Bob Deuell for
20 standing vigil for the firefighters killed by the fertilizer plant
21 explosion in West; and

22 WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Mr. Barkham shared 32
23 rewarding years of marriage with his wife, Laurie, and their
24 treasured family eventually grew to include their two sons, Brent

1 Barkham and his wife, Keely, and Jacob Barkham and his wife, Kaci,
2 and four grandchildren, Bailey, Landry, Seann, and Graci; in his
3 leisure hours, he loved cooking and spending time in the great
4 outdoors, especially hunting and fishing with his sons; and

5 WHEREAS, Jamie Barkham distinguished himself through his
6 remarkable kindness, courage, and dedication to duty, and though
7 his life ended far too soon, he leaves behind a legacy that will be
8 forever cherished by those who were fortunate enough to have known
9 him; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of James Dwight Barkham
12 Jr. and extend heartfelt sympathy to his relatives and many
13 friends; and, be it further

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