

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 625

In Memory  
of  
William Taylor Dykes

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of William Taylor "Spike" Dykes, the celebrated former Texas Tech University football coach, who died March 10, 2017, at the age of 79; and

**WHEREAS**, William Dykes was born on March 14, 1938, in Lubbock, Texas; he developed a love for sports at an early age, and he became a star center for the Ballinger High School Bearcats; and

**WHEREAS**, Spike Dykes spent more than a decade as a coach at several Texas high schools, and he joined the Texas Tech Red Raiders as an assistant coach in 1984; two years later, he took over as head coach just before the Raiders' 1986 bowl game; over the course of his legendary career as head coach, he led the Raiders to an additional six bowl games; the Raiders had played in only one bowl game in the eight years prior to his leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, Coach Dykes guided the Raiders to more at-home wins than any coach in the team's history at that time, and he ended his storied career at Texas Tech University with an 82-67-1 record; he was a three-time Southwest Conference Coach of the Year, and he was named Big 12 Coach of the Year for 1996; he was inducted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame the week of his 70th birthday; and

**WHEREAS**, Spike Dykes was a loving husband and father; in addition to his skill as a coach, he was known for his quick wit, his warm and gracious nature, and his folksy storytelling; he was

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a treasured Texan and a cherished friend, even to some of his fiercest competitors on the field, and his legacy as a beloved coach and father figure to many will never be forgotten; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of William Taylor "Spike" Dykes; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Spike Dykes.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 18, 2017, by a rising vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate