86R12128 ST-D

By:  Clardy H.R. No. 626

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, James W. Arnold, a valued member of the Tyler community and a friend to many, passed away on January 19, 2019, at the age of 87; and

WHEREAS, The son of Loys and Clara Woolf Arnold, Jim Arnold was born in Arp on February 8, 1931, and he grew up with the companionship of two brothers, Paul and Richard; he attended London High School, graduating as valedictorian of his class and serving as captain of the football team, and he went on to earn a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Southern Methodist University, where he was a member of the Sigma Tau national engineering honor society; and

WHEREAS, On July 19, 1952, Mr. Arnold was joined in matrimony to his high school sweetheart, the former Bessie Nell Hazzard, and the couple shared a rewarding marriage that spanned more than 66 years; he was the proud father of four children, Sherry, Keith, Jamie, and Mollie, and he had the pleasure of seeing his family grow to include 13 grandchildren, Ben, Walter, James, Stephen, Jonathan, John, Jimmy, Will, A.D., Melissa, Nellie, Bessie, and Lilly, as well as eight great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Arnold embarked on a successful career with Woolf & Magee, Inc., as a drilling engineer; he rose to the position of president and owned the company until he sold it in 1991; a leader in his profession, he was elected president of the International Association of Drilling Contractors board of directors, and he served on the boards of the American Petroleum Institute and the National Petroleum Council; and

WHEREAS, A resident of Tyler for more than 66 years, Mr. Arnold was a founding director of Heritage National Bank, and he served as president of the board of directors for the Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce; additionally, he was president of the Texas Rose Festival Association and the Order of the Rose, and he was highly involved in a number of community organizations, including the Tyler Junior College Foundation, The University of Texas Health Center at Tyler Development Board, and the Stewart Regional Blood Center; and

WHEREAS, Sustained by a deep and abiding faith, Mr. Arnold was a longtime member of Green Acres Baptist Church, where he served as deacon emeritus; in his leisure time, he delighted in deer hunting and watching his son and grandsons play football; and

WHEREAS, Jim Arnold lived a life that was rich in personal and professional achievements, and he will forever be a source of inspiration to those he leaves behind; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of James W. Arnold and extend heartfelt sympathy to his family and friends; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of James W. Arnold.