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By:  Tinderholt H.R. No. 788

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to a close with the passing of Harold Kenneth Elliott of Arlington on February 6, 2019, at the age of 83; and

WHEREAS, The son of Othel and Veda Elliott, Harold Elliott was born in Clarendon on June 9, 1935; when he was only 14, he began preaching, and he became a pastor two years later; he graduated from The University of Texas at Arlington and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; in 1952, he married the former Norma Haws, and they became the parents of three children, Tina, Ken, and Sherrie; he eventually welcomed into his cherished family four grandchildren, Andrea, Ashley, Kathryn, and Jonathan, and two great-grandchildren, Mia and Gavin; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed clergyman was a pastor for three decades and led Parkview Baptist Church from 1959 until his retirement in 1982; in 1973, he began serving as a volunteer chaplain for the Arlington Police Department, and he became its first full-time chaplain in 1982; the officers gave him the affectionate nickname "Chappy," and following his retirement in 2004, he continued to volunteer in his familiar role until his passing; and

WHEREAS, After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Chaplain Elliott consoled first responders in New York City, and over the years, he provided spiritual guidance in a number of other major disasters, including the Branch Davidian crisis, the Oklahoma City bombing, and Hurricane Katrina; he held credentials from the Texas Department of Public Safety Critical Incident Stress Team, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department; he was also the author of two books and produced two films, and in 1982, he founded the Police Museum, which was named in his honor in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Harold Elliott was a source of wisdom and comfort to innumerable people, and although he will be deeply missed, those who were fortunate enough to know him will continue to find inspiration in his faith, compassion, and devotion; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Harold Kenneth Elliott and extend sincere condolences to all who mourn his passing; 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 Harold Kenneth Elliott.