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By:  Murr H.R. No. 1396

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, A full and productive life drew to a close with the passing of admired entrepreneur Phillip F. Becker of Tarpley on October 25, 2018, at the age of 87; and

WHEREAS, The son of Fred and Ada Becker, Phil Becker was born in San Antonio on March 21, 1931, and grew up with three siblings, Garland, Douglas, and Dorothy; he graduated from Brackenridge High School and worked full-time while attending college for a year; on May 18, 1950, he married the former Ruth Ellis, and they became the parents of four children, Kathy, Johnny, Diann, and Joey; he eventually knew the joy of welcoming into his cherished family 14 grandchildren, Phillip, Allison, Glenn, Ann, Summer, Susie, Melinda, Scott, Nicole, Jason, Jessica, Doug, Dinias, and Wendy, as well as 16 great-grandchildren; following the death of his first wife in 2011, he was fortunate to find love a second time with Mary Sowards, whom he wed on October 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, While awaiting admission to a law enforcement program, Mr. Becker began fixing equipment for an underground construction company, and he was quickly promoted to foreman and then superintendent for crews across South and Central Texas; in the mid-1960s, he founded his own firm; he later mentored a group of his employees so that they could form a company to buy his assets, and in 1995, he retired from daily underground construction; dedicated to the industry, he strove to improve construction safety, working conditions, business practices, and funding through his efforts in behalf of professional associations; he was active in the Associated General Contractors for two decades and served as national chair of the Municipal/Utilities Division and as president of AGC of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Becker was quietly generous to many people in need, and he was active in philanthropy as a longtime member of Bandera Masonic Lodge No. 1123; in addition to serving as worshipful master and district deputy, he was a worthy patron of Bandera Chapter No. 643, Order of the Eastern Star; his interests included aviation and hunting, and he also enjoyed traveling the country with friends in his Airstream club; and

WHEREAS, Warm, humble, and deeply kind, Phil Becker was an inspiration to all who were fortunate enough to know him, and he has left his loved ones with a wealth of memories that they will forever treasure; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Phil Becker and extend sincere sympathy to his family and many 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 Phillip F. Becker.