86R9913 BK-D

By:  Lambert H.R. No. 1863

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The citizens of Sweetwater have lost a beloved member of their community with the passing of former chief of police James Stephen Kelley on January 24, 2019, at the age of 68; and

WHEREAS, Born in Roby on November 18, 1950, to Stephen and Priscilla Kelley, Jim Kelley grew up with the companionship of a brother, Joe, and a sister, Rhonda; after attending Rotan High School, he served in the United States Navy as a corpsman during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley began his career in law enforcement in Sweetwater, where he worked as a police officer for seven years before being promoted to chief of police, a position he held for 28 years; he contributed to his professional community through his involvement with the West Central Texas Council of Governments, and at the time of his passing, he was the head of security at Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital; and

WHEREAS, An engaged citizen of Sweetwater, Mr. Kelley served on the Children's Advocacy Centers of West Texas board, and coached Little League and Pee Wee basketball for 15 years; he also volunteered his time as a deacon at the 4th and Elm Church of Christ and held membership in VFW Post No. 2479; and

WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Kelley enjoyed the love and support of his wife, Scharles, and he took great pride in his two sons, Tanner and Paxton; and

WHEREAS, Jim Kelley was a pillar of his community and a blessing in the lives of countless people, and he leaves behind a legacy that will forever be treasured by those who held him dear; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of James Stephen Kelley and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife, Scharles Kelley; to his sons, Tanner Kelley and Paxton Kelley; to his sister, Rhonda Seymour, and her husband, Mitch; to his sisters-in-law, Nathalie Kelley and Liz Miller and her husband, Al; to his nieces, Bri Burnett and her husband, Blake, and Blace Garcia and her husband, Mark; to his nephews, Erick Lewis and Josh Kelley; and to his other relatives 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 Jim Kelley.