

By: Clardy

H.R. No. 109

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The city of Tyler lost a beloved resident with the  
2 death of Robert Frank Faulkner on August 28, 2018, at the age of 96;  
3 and

4           WHEREAS, Bob Faulkner was born to Sterry and Inez Faulkner on  
5 January 16, 1922, in Duncan, Oklahoma, and he grew up in Electra,  
6 Texas, where he graduated from high school; he was an Eagle Scout,  
7 and he took part in the very first National Scout Jamboree in 1937;  
8 answering his nation's call to duty, he served in the U.S. Army Air  
9 Corps in the Pacific during World War II; and

10           WHEREAS, After the war, Mr. Faulkner attended the University  
11 of Oklahoma, where he lettered in tennis and earned a bachelor's  
12 degree in mechanical engineering; in 1948, he settled in Tyler, and  
13 he went on to become one of the first air conditioning engineers in  
14 East Texas; in 1975, he earned a U.S. patent for a solar panel; and

15           WHEREAS, A gifted tennis player, Mr. Faulkner cofounded the  
16 Tyler Tennis and Swim Club, established the Faulkner Tennis Center  
17 at Faulkner Park, and served as a volunteer tennis coach for the  
18 Tyler schools; he also sponsored an awards dinner for local  
19 players, and he was the host of the U.S. Tennis Association's Bob  
20 Faulkner Super Champ Major Zone tennis tournament every summer; a  
21 serious golfer as well, he was a longtime member of the Willow Brook  
22 Country Club and a cofounder of Hollytree Country Club and  
23 Briarwood Country Club, where he was golf champion for three years;  
24 he played Santa Claus each Christmas at several children's homes

1 for half a century, and he helped establish the Historic Aviation  
2 Memorial Museum at Tyler Pounds Regional Airport; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Faulkner was married to Gloria Beth Weatherall  
4 for nearly seven decades, until her death, and they were the parents  
5 of two daughters, Karen and Buffie; Mr. Faulkner was later blessed  
6 with four grandchildren, Robert, Richard, Courtney, and James, and  
7 five great-grandchildren, Molly, John, Richard, Andrew, and Sarah;  
8 a man of strong religious faith, he attended Marvin United  
9 Methodist Church for 70 years, serving on the board of stewards, as  
10 chair of the property committee, as a Sunday school teacher, and as  
11 scoutmaster of Troop No. 336; and

12 WHEREAS, A devoted family man and an esteemed leader in his  
13 community, Bob Faulkner lived a rich and purposeful life, and he  
14 leaves behind a record of good works that will long be remembered in  
15 Tyler; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
17 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Robert Frank  
18 Faulkner and extend heartfelt sympathy to his family and friends;  
19 and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Robert  
23 Frank Faulkner.