

By: Sherman, Sr.

H.R. No. 823

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Willis West Jr. passed away on March 1, 2019, at the
2 age of 91, concluding a life that was rich in meaningful
3 accomplishments; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on June 18, 1927, Willis
5 West Jr. was the son of Willis West Sr. and Maggie Spears-West, and
6 he grew up with the companionship of five siblings, Leron, Mildred,
7 James, Julia, and Bobbie; he attended public schools in Oklahoma
8 before joining the United States Army in 1946; stationed at Fort
9 George G. Meade in Maryland, he was assigned as a reconnaissance
10 car crewman, and he was recognized for his service with the Vietnam
11 Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Purple
12 Heart, and the Honorary Medal for Governance & Leadership; and

13 WHEREAS, A member of the National Carpenter's Union, Mr. West
14 worked as a self-employed carpenter, and in the course of his
15 career, he served as a mentor to anyone who wanted to learn the
16 trade; he ultimately retired in 1995 as a master carpenter; over the
17 years, he also made his living as a seafood and produce vendor; and

18 WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman was admired for his honesty
19 as well as his caring heart and generosity toward those in need;
20 deeply committed to his faith, he served as a deacon at Maple
21 Springs Baptist Church in Maryland from 1998 to 2003, and at the
22 time of his passing, he was a valued member of the House of Praise;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. West cherished the time he spent with his loving

1 family, which included his wife of nearly 50 years, Eunice West; he
2 took great pride in his children, Kevin, Royce, Carnell, Willis,
3 Diane, and Larry, and stepchildren, James, Wayne, and Kimberly, as
4 well as in his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and

5 WHEREAS, Willis West was a source of wisdom, inspiration, and
6 joy to all who held him dear, and he leaves them with a host of
7 wonderful memories that they will forever treasure; now, therefore,
8 be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Willis West Jr. and
11 extend heartfelt sympathy to his family and friends; and, be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
15 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Willis West
16 Jr.