

By: Murr

H.R. No. 1396

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

16 WHEREAS, While awaiting admission to a law enforcement
17 program, Mr. Becker began fixing equipment for an underground
18 construction company, and he was quickly promoted to foreman and
19 then superintendent for crews across South and Central Texas; in
20 the mid-1960s, he founded his own firm; he later mentored a group of
21 his employees so that they could form a company to buy his assets,
22 and in 1995, he retired from daily underground construction;
23 dedicated to the industry, he strove to improve construction
24 safety, working conditions, business practices, and funding

1 through his efforts in behalf of professional associations; he was
2 active in the Associated General Contractors for two decades and
3 served as national chair of the Municipal/Utilities Division and as
4 president of AGC of Texas; and

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

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

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
17 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Phil Becker and extend
18 sincere sympathy to his family and many friends; and, be it further

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