

By: Holland

H.R. No. 1615

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to
2 a close with the death of retired U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel
3 Carlos Everado Lerma of Frisco on March 31, 2019, at the age of 84;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Carlos Lerma was born in Kingsville on October 12,
6 1934, to Francisca and Mauro Lerma Jr., and he grew up with four
7 siblings, Mauro, Lucila, Nilda, and Ninfa; he was a star athlete at
8 Kingsville High School, where he lettered in football, basketball,
9 and track, and he attended Texas Tech University on a football
10 scholarship, earning a degree in civil engineering; and

11 WHEREAS, After working as a laboratory instructor at Texas
12 Tech and as an assistant highway project engineer for the State of
13 Texas, Mr. Lerma joined the U.S. Air Force; during his outstanding
14 career as a fighter pilot, he flew 300 combat missions in Southeast
15 Asia without losing a plane or a crew member and earned the coveted
16 "Top Gun" designation; his medals and commendations included the
17 Distinguished Flying Cross, the Meritorious Service Medal with two
18 oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with 14 oak leaf clusters, and the
19 Vietnam Service Medal with oak leaf clusters, among many others;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, While still in the air force, Mr. Lerma earned a
22 master's degree in public administration from Auburn University
23 through the USAF Air War College, and after retiring at the rank of
24 lieutenant colonel, he returned to Kingsville and served his

1 beloved home town as city manager, securing over \$15 million in
2 grants and projects for the city during his tenure; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Lerma was joined in matrimony to Dr. Sandra
4 Lanier-Lerma, and they shared a rewarding marriage that spanned 32
5 years; he was the proud father of three children, Carlos Lerma,
6 Lawrence Berg Jr., and Diana Lerma Bounds, and later in life, he was
7 blessed with eight grandchildren, Gretchen, Rachel, Elizabeth,
8 Christopher, Cason, Caden, Haley, and Rhyan; and

9 WHEREAS, Carlos Lerma possessed a love of adventure and a
10 generosity of spirit that brightened the hearts of all those who
11 knew and loved him, and they will forever treasure their memories of
12 time spent in his company; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Lieutenant Colonel
15 (Ret.) Carlos Everado Lerma and extend heartfelt sympathy to his
16 family and many friends; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Carlos
20 Lerma.