

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 2105

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life devoted to the service of his nation drew to a
2 close with the death of U.S. Navy Captain (Ret.) Frank Montesano of
3 Corpus Christi on April 13, 2018, at the age of 68; and

4 WHEREAS, "Rocco" Montesano was born in Passaic, New Jersey,
5 on July 27, 1949, to Ann and Rocco Montesano, and he grew up in
6 Hackensack; in 1971, he graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy at
7 Annapolis, and he later earned a master's degree from St. Mary's
8 University; and

9 WHEREAS, Over the course of his distinguished 27-year career
10 as a U.S. Navy pilot, Captain Montesano accumulated more than 5,500
11 flight hours and served in the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean, the
12 North Atlantic, and the Arabian Sea; during Operation Desert Storm,
13 he commanded A-6 Squadron VA-176, winning three consecutive "Battle
14 E" awards; he went on to work in the Office of the Chief of Naval
15 Operations at the Pentagon, command Naval Air Station Corpus
16 Christi, and serve as manpower director for the Chief of Naval Air
17 Training until his retirement in 1998; his decorations included two
18 Legion of Merit Medals, two Meritorious Service Medals, the Navy
19 and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps
20 Achievement Medal; and

21 WHEREAS, Captain Montesano served for a decade as executive
22 director of the USS *Lexington* Museum in Corpus Christi; under his
23 leadership, this legendary World War II aircraft carrier has become
24 one of the most popular tourist destinations in the region, drawing

1 more than 300,000 visitors a year; he also gave back to his
2 community through his participation with the Corpus Christi
3 Mustangs, the Corpus Christi Housing Authority, and the Rotary
4 Club; and

5 WHEREAS, Captain Montesano shared 46 years with his wife,
6 Joanne, and he was a loving father to his children, Michael
7 Montesano and Cariann Galloway, and a doting grandfather to Kyleigh
8 and Kase Galloway; he enjoyed playing golf and basketball, and he
9 delighted in the time he spent in his garden; and

10 WHEREAS, A devoted family man and a proud veteran, Rocco
11 Montesano served with honor, courage, and dedication, and his
12 memory will be forever cherished by all those who were privileged to
13 know him; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
15 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Captain Frank "Rocco"
16 Montesano and extend heartfelt sympathy to his relatives and many
17 friends; and, be it further

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