

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 481

In Memory
of
James Avery

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of James Avery, who died April 30, 2018, at the age of 96; and

WHEREAS, James Avery was born December 7, 1921, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; he served the nation with distinction during World War II as a B-26 pilot with the United States Army Air Corps and flew 44 missions over Germany; and

WHEREAS, After the war, he earned a degree in industrial design from the University of Illinois and taught for a time at the University of Colorado, where he began exploring jewelry-making techniques; and

WHEREAS, He started a jewelry business in 1954 in a garage with \$250 in capital; due to his artistic vision and superb craftsmanship, his business, James Avery Artisan Jewelry, grew to become a national leader in the jewelry industry; today, the company has five manufacturing facilities in the Texas Hill Country and 80 stores across five states; and

WHEREAS, James Avery believed strongly in fairness, equality, and caring for others, and Christian symbolism played an important role in his design work; throughout his life, he gave generously to many in need, as well as to childhood and higher education initiatives, to organizations that support health and well-being, to the arts and the humanities, to first responders, and to many faith-based organizations; and

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WHEREAS, An exceptionally creative and dynamic individual, James Avery touched the lives of many through his work and art, and his dedication to his family and his enthusiasm for living each day to the fullest will not be forgotten by those who were privileged to share in his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of James Avery; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of James Avery.

Buckingham

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 26, 2019, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate