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By:  White H.R. No. 19

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Don Baird retired as mayor of Colmesneil on June 21, 2021, following 19 years of exemplary service in that office; and

WHEREAS, First elected by an overwhelming majority in 2002, Mayor Baird would go on to win reelection nine times; he played a key role in securing a number of significant grants for infrastructure, beautification, and initiatives in behalf of youth, seniors, and others; in addition, he partnered with a Tyler County commissioner to create Emergency Services District No. 7 to house the city's volunteer fire department; over the course of his long tenure, he guided the city through three major hurricanes, floods, and droughts; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Baird set an example of calm, thoughtful leadership, and he has been a friend and mentor to many; among numerous accolades, he received the 2015 Citizen of the Year award from the Tyler County Chamber of Commerce, and in 2018, on his 90th birthday, he received a proclamation from U.S. Congressman Brian Babin; and

WHEREAS, A veteran of the United States Navy, Mr. Baird served for two years on the city council before his successful mayoral campaign; he has long been active in the community and in his church, and each year, he and his wife, Barbara, delight local residents with elaborate Christmas displays at their home; and

WHEREAS, Don Baird greatly benefited his fellow citizens through nearly two decades of dedicated service, and his contributions will be remembered and admired for years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby honor Don Baird for his service as mayor of Colmesneil and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mayor Baird as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.