87R6202 BHH-D

By:  Bell of Kaufman H.R. No. 288

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The life of a dedicated public servant drew to a close with the passing of Henderson County Commissioner Kenneth Carl Geeslin of Athens on December 3, 2019, at the age of 71; and

WHEREAS, Ken Geeslin was born to Vernon and Mary Geeslin in Cincinnati, Ohio, on April 1, 1948, and he grew up on his parents' farm; answering his nation's call to duty, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1967 and served as a communications technician during a tour of duty in Weymouth, England; and

WHEREAS, In 1974, Mr. Geeslin transitioned from active duty and joined the D.C. Air National Guard, where he held a leadership role in the Joint Chiefs of Staff Operational Readiness Exercises; after five years of full-time service in the guard, he became a traditional guardsman and continued to serve weekend duty until his retirement at the rank of Master Sergeant in 1989, following more than two decades of military service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Geeslin enjoyed a successful civilian career in engineering and telecommunications with MCI Telecommunications, where he earned awards from both MCI and the Federal Aviation Administration for his work on the communications network that supports civil and military air traffic control in all U.S. airspace; his other notable projects include overseeing the first large-scale deployment of fiber optic communications between Washington, D.C., and New York and the development of emergency restoration processes for microwave radio towers; and

WHEREAS, Upon moving to Athens in 2001, Mr. Geeslin became an active member of the community and worked to improve the lives of Henderson County residents through his role as the commissioner for Precinct 4; first elected in 2010 and serving until his passing, he was instrumental in numerous improvements to county facilities and infrastructure such as upgrading road maintenance vehicles and introducing single stream recycling; and

WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Geeslin benefited from the love and support of his wife, Katherine, and he took great pride in his four children, John, Jennifer, Matt, and Malia, and his six grandchildren, Ella, Meredith, Cora, James, Sidney, and Sarah; and

WHEREAS, Ken Geeslin lived a life that was rich in personal and professional achievements, and his commitment to his loved ones and to his fellow citizens will be remembered and admired for years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Kenneth Carl Geeslin and extend sincere condolences to all who mourn his passing; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Ken Geeslin.