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By:  Murr H.R. No. 673

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Texans are mourning the loss of Dr. Robert Otto Dittmar II of Kerrville, an esteemed veterinarian for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department who tragically passed away on August 8, 2020, at the age of 64; and

WHEREAS, Bob Dittmar was born in Fredericksburg on October 18, 1955, to Robert and Irene Dittmar; he grew up with two siblings, Karen and Jerry, on the family ranch in Harper and was a member of the Harper High School Class of 1973; he went on to earn an undergraduate degree at Texas A&M University and graduated from the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences in 1979; and

WHEREAS, Embarking on a career in veterinary medicine, Dr. Dittmar practiced in Weslaco, Hondo, and then at the Kerrville Veterinary Clinic, which he owned for nearly a decade, beginning in 1982; establishing strong relationships with clients throughout the Texas Hill Country, he earned a reputation for the dedicated and consistent care that he provided in every situation; and

WHEREAS, In 2014, Dr. Dittmar became the first wildlife veterinarian for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; the role allowed him to pursue his passion for conservation by working with landowners, hunters, and biologists to help preserve native wildlife, and he cared deeply about his efforts to relocate Texas bighorn sheep and pronghorn and to assist TPWD in responding to complex animal health and disease issues; he also contributed his time and expertise to several TPWD committees, and he was active with numerous other organizations; he served as director of the Texas Wildlife Association and helped develop the Doss and Harper Wildlife Management Associations; moreover, he taught many youth about wildlife and responsible hunting, and he gave back to the local community as director of the Texas Farm Bureau in Kerr County; and

WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Dr. Dittmar enjoyed the love and support of his wife, Bernadine, with whom he shared a rewarding marriage that spanned more than four decades; he was the devoted father of two children, Robert and Whitney, and he took great pride in his grandchildren, Hayden, Paige, Kimber, and Levi; a man of faith, he served on the church council at Zion Lutheran Church in Kerrville; and

WHEREAS, While Dr. Bob Dittmar's passing has deprived the Texas conservation and wildlife community of an admired leader, his achievements will continue to resonate in the 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 Dr. Robert Otto Dittmar II and extend deepest condolences to his relatives, friends, and colleagues; 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 Dr. Bob Dittmar.