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By:  Anderson H.R. No. 1423

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The city of Waco lost a beloved resident with the passing of Robert Pearson on May 5, 2021, at the age of 76; and

WHEREAS, The son of Oneta Pearson, Robert Pearson was born in Waco on October 18, 1944, and he grew up with two siblings, Mary Jo and Cecil; he graduated from A. J. Moore High School and moved to Reno, Nevada, where his older brother had a job waiting for him in the restaurant at Harrah's Reno Hotel & Casino; when he turned 21, he was hired as a bartender; and

WHEREAS, Weary of the casino scene, Mr. Pearson lived in Houston for five years, and he returned to Waco in 1983; along the way, he found employment as a club manager and floor finisher, and he also worked in television production and at a hospital; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pearson became a well-known figure in Waco after opening a shoeshine stand at the airport; wise, witty, and well-versed in many topics, he offered customers lively conversation while putting a "glow on their toe"; frequent flyers would stop for a chat on their way through the airport, and when he wasn't busy polishing, he helped travelers with their luggage, offered advice on where to dine, provided directions, or summoned an Uber; customers became friends, and when his lease ended after 14 years, he got two offers of free locations; he set up his business at the Extraco Bank during the week and at Magnolia Market at the Silos on Saturdays; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, Robert Pearson brightened the days of countless people, and although he is deeply missed, his warmth and kindness will remain a source of inspiration to all who were privileged to share in the richness of his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Robert Pearson 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 Robert Pearson.