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By:  Guillen H.R. No. 1795

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Captain Alan Earl Bentz of Poteet passed away on April 29, 2019, at the age of 86, leaving his loved ones to reflect on a life of meaningful accomplishments and patriotic service to his country; and

WHEREAS, Born in San Antonio on January 1, 1933, Alan Bentz was the son of Bonnie Marie Adams Bentz and Joseph John Bentz; he took pride in his family ancestry, which he traced back to such notable figures as President John Adams and famed Texas cattle trail driver William Green Butler; he grew up near Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, which influenced his desire to join the military; after attending Kennedy High School, he enlisted in the United States Navy in 1950, when he was 17 years old; and

WHEREAS, Captain Bentz's career in the U.S. Navy and the Navy Reserve spanned more than four decades; among numerous other assignments, he was a crew member aboard the USS *Bellatrix*, where he served as assault boat coxswain and craftmaster; he rose through the ranks to become a captain, and his long tenure in the military included service as chair of the Navy Recruiting District Assistance Council and as a navy liaison officer to both the Texas Governor's Office and the Fifth U.S. Army; he earned 14 Gold Wreath Awards for recruiting excellence and also received such decorations as the National Guard Distinguished Service Medal, the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, and the U.S. Army Meritorious Service Medal; he formally retired from the navy in 1991; and

WHEREAS, While serving in the reserve, Captain Bentz completed studies at San Antonio College and The University of Texas at Austin, graduating with a civil engineering degree in 1962; in addition to distinguishing himself in his military career, he was actively involved in a number of civic and veterans' organizations, and he owned the Anchor B Ranch in Poteet; and

WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Captain Bentz enjoyed the love and support of his wife of more than five decades, Yvonna Simpson Bentz; he was blessed with a daughter, Alisha, and two grandchildren, Wilson and Jessi; always ready to lend a helping hand to those in need, he was also admired as an individual who treated others with respect and dignity; and

WHEREAS, Although Alan Bentz is greatly missed, he leaves behind a legacy that will continue to inspire all those who held him dear; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Captain Alan Earl Bentz and extend sincere sympathy to his family and friends; 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 Captain Bentz.