

By: Oliverson

H.R. No. 115

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The death of Dr. Charles Eugene Cowles Jr. on
2 December 26, 2020, at the age of 52, leaves his loved ones to
3 reflect on a life of meaningful accomplishments and dedicated
4 service to his profession and his community; and

5 WHEREAS, Charles Cowles Jr. was born in Houston to Charles
6 and Carol Cowles on April 19, 1968, and he grew up with two
7 siblings, Jo Ann and Connie; after graduating from Greenwood
8 Village Christian Academy, he earned an associate degree in nursing
9 from the State University of New York and a bachelor's degree in
10 sports medicine from the University of Houston-Clear Lake; and

11 WHEREAS, From 1989 to 1998, Mr. Cowles worked as a
12 firefighter and senior paramedic in Beaumont, and from 1993 to
13 2004, he also taught and served as clinical coordinator of
14 emergency management services courses at San Jacinto College; he
15 completed his medical degree at The University of Texas Medical
16 School at Houston and served his residency in anesthesiology at The
17 University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston; in 2013, he
18 received a master's degree in business administration from the
19 Physician Executive MBA Program of the University of Tennessee,
20 Knoxville; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Cowles was an associate professor and assistant
22 clinical director at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer
23 Center, where he was also divisional chief safety officer, incident
24 commander, and vice chair of the Acute and Critical Care Committee;

1 as a researcher, he specialized in the prevention of surgical and
2 operating room fires, neuro-anesthesiology, and tactical and
3 disaster medicine; he was a Fellow of the American Society of
4 Anesthesiologists; and

5 WHEREAS, In addition, Dr. Cowles served as the public health
6 officer for the City of Pasadena, earning a commendation from the
7 Harris County Precinct 8 Constable's Office; he was a board member
8 of the Pasadena Police Department's Emergency Response and SWAT
9 teams and the Houston Regional Active Attack Coordinated Training
10 Group, and he taught CPR and Stop the Bleed programs in his
11 community and at the Texas Capitol; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Cowles served his profession as assistant
13 treasurer of the Texas Society of Anesthesiologists,
14 treasurer/secretary of the Harris County Medical Society, chair of
15 the Texas Medical Association Council on Medical Education,
16 alternate delegate to the board of the American Society of
17 Anesthesiologists, and trustee of the Gulf Coast Regional Blood
18 Center and the Texas Medical Association Insurance Trust; and

19 WHEREAS, A man of deep religious faith, Dr. Cowles was a
20 deacon at First Baptist Church of Pasadena and a board member of
21 First Baptist Christian Academy and Youth Reach Houston, a
22 faith-based program for young men; he was also a proud conservative
23 Republican, and he often traveled to Austin and Washington, D.C.,
24 to advocate on behalf of his patients; and

25 WHEREAS, In 1995, Dr. Cowles met the love of his life,
26 Jennifer Kendrick, who was attending an emergency medical
27 technician course he was teaching; ever the professional, he waited

1 until the final day of the course to ask her on their first date,
2 which was on New Year's Eve 1995, and on May 19, 2000, the couple
3 were married; together they had three sons, Christopher, Caleb, and
4 Jake, whom Dr. Cowles referred to as "his cowboys"; a warm-hearted
5 man with a quick wit and a deep laugh, he was a skilled cook and
6 hunter, and he also took great pleasure in sipping bourbon, rooting
7 for the Houston Astros, wearing wild socks, listening to music, and
8 following the fortunes of the space program; and

9 WHEREAS, Charles Cowles was admired and respected for his
10 considerable gifts and achievements, as well as for his devotion to
11 his family, state, and nation, and he will forever remain a source
12 of inspiration for those he leaves behind; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Dr. Charles Eugene
15 Cowles Jr. and extend heartfelt sympathy to his relatives and many
16 friends; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of
20 Dr. Charles Cowles Jr.