

By: Vasut

H.R. No. 964

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the  
2 passing of Eddie Foster Roberts Sr. of Bay City on March 15, 2020,  
3 at the age of 97; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Ikeleys and Linnie Roberts, Eddie Roberts  
5 was born in Bay City on April 17, 1922, and grew up with two sisters,  
6 Christine and Theresa; he was valedictorian of the Class of 1940 at  
7 A. G. Hilliard High School and attended Howard University before  
8 earning a bachelor's degree from Prairie View A&M University;  
9 answering his nation's call to duty, he served in the U.S. Army; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Roberts attended the Landig College of Mortuary  
11 Science and owned and operated Duncan Roberts Funeral Home in Bay  
12 City; he was the funeral director in charge from 1942 through 2020,  
13 providing support to grieving families and rebuilding the business  
14 on-site after it was destroyed by fire in 1992; further, he became  
15 the first African American to serve as a postman in Bay City, and he  
16 worked in that capacity for a decade; and

17 WHEREAS, Civically engaged, Mr. Roberts was Worshipful  
18 Master of Gulf Coast Masonic Lodge No. 272 and belonged to VFW Post  
19 No. 850 and the Prometheans; additionally, he was involved with the  
20 American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, the  
21 Matagorda County Sheriffs' Association, the Bay City Housing  
22 Authority, the Eastview Cemetery Association, and the Bay City  
23 Ebony Club, among other organizations; and

24 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Roberts enjoyed the love

1 and support of his wife, the former Faye Grace Bellfield, with whom  
2 he shared a rewarding marriage that spanned six and a half decades  
3 until her death in 2016; he was the devoted father of two children,  
4 Cheryl Roberts Owens and the late Eddie F. Roberts Jr., and he took  
5 great pride in his grandson, Harrison Foster Owens; a valued  
6 congregant of Enterprise Baptist Church in Bay City, he was a member  
7 of the male chorus and chaired the finance committee and the trustee  
8 and educational boards; and

9 WHEREAS, Deeply dedicated to his family, his faith, and his  
10 community, Eddie Roberts earned the lasting respect and admiration  
11 of all who were privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Eddie Foster  
14 Roberts Sr. and extend heartfelt sympathy to his relatives and  
15 friends; and, be it further

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