

By: Sanford

H.R. No. 1085

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The citizens of McKinney lost a valued resident with
2 the death of John Edward Gay on January 26, 2021, at the age of 91;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, A native of McKinney, John Gay was born to Morris and
5 Eleanor Gay on March 9, 1929; after graduating from McKinney Boyd
6 High School in 1947, he attended Southern Methodist University,
7 where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1951 and his law degree in
8 1954; he subsequently embarked on a successful legal career that
9 spanned more than six decades and included a 50-year tenure as
10 general counsel for the North Texas Municipal Water District; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Gay was a member of the McKinney City Council
12 from 1985 until 1991, and he went on to serve as the city's mayor for
13 three terms, until 1997; he further contributed to his community
14 through leadership roles with a number of worthy organizations,
15 including the McKinney Rotary Club, the Children's Advocacy Center
16 of Collin County, the Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife
17 Sanctuary, and the McKinney Education Foundation; moreover, he was
18 a member of the board at First United Methodist Church of McKinney;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, In October 1959, Mr. Gay wed the former Judy
21 Leatherman, and in the course of their 61 years of marriage, they
22 became the proud parents of three children, Jennifer, John, and
23 David; with the passing years, he had the privilege of seeing his
24 family grow to include four grandchildren, Alan, Taylor, Ryan, and

1 Maggie; and

2 WHEREAS, In recognition of his many accomplishments, Mr. Gay
3 received the 1999 Citizen of the Year award from the McKinney
4 Chamber of Commerce; in addition, he and his wife were honored by
5 the City of McKinney, which named the John & Judy Gay Library in
6 their honor; and

7 WHEREAS, Although John Gay's death has brought great sorrow
8 to his loved ones, his life was an inspiring example of the good
9 that one person can accomplish; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of John Edward Gay and
12 extend sincere condolences to all who mourn his passing; and, be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
16 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of John Gay.