

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 1202

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of Gerald  
2 Morris Jr. of Houston, who passed away on April 24, 2021, at the age  
3 of 56; and

4           WHEREAS, The son of Gerald Morris Sr. and Shirley Ann Morris,  
5 Gerald Morris was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, on February 17,  
6 1965, and grew up with four younger siblings; educated in the North  
7 Forest Independent School District, he excelled in track and  
8 basketball and also won dance competitions; he went on to graduate  
9 from barber's school and co-owned a successful barber and beauty  
10 shop in Oklahoma; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Morris became active in East Park Baptist Church  
12 in the 1980s, serving as president of the Young Adult Choir; he was  
13 ordained as a deacon in 1986, and under his leadership as drill  
14 sergeant, the Drill Team Ministry won many awards; called to the  
15 ministry, he was ordained in 1996 and organized United Christian  
16 Community Church in Houston; after moving to Oklahoma City,  
17 Oklahoma, he served at Christian Faith Missionary Baptist Church  
18 for many years; he returned to Houston and East Park Baptist in  
19 2009, and he also belonged to the Lighthouse Church and Gethsemane  
20 Missionary Baptist Church; in 2016, he received the Community  
21 Appreciation Award from the East Houston Economic Development  
22 Company in recognition of his service and mentorship of North  
23 Forest residents; and

24           WHEREAS, During the pandemic, Mr. Morris led his family in a

1 telephone worship service every Sunday morning, helping them grow  
2 in their faith, and his brothers, cousins, and Uncle Richard joined  
3 him weekly for a men's Bible study; every Friday, he shared his  
4 faith live on Facebook, even when hospitalized; and

5 WHEREAS, Gerald Morris led a life of caring devotion to  
6 others, and although he is deeply missed, he will remain a lasting  
7 source of inspiration to all who knew him; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Gerald Morris Jr. and  
10 extend sincere condolences to his loved ones; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
12 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
13 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Gerald  
14 Morris Jr.