

By: Spiller

H.R. No. 1302

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents of Irving lost an admired civic leader  
2 with the passing of Ronald Keith Umphress on April 6, 2021, at the  
3 age of 89; and

4           WHEREAS, The son of John and Exa Mae Umphress, Ronald  
5 Umphress was born in Blue Ridge on November 29, 1931, and grew up on  
6 a farm as the youngest of 10 children; he was a dairy farmer before  
7 going to work for Citizens State Bank in Princeton; quickly rising  
8 to become executive vice president, he went on to join Southwest  
9 Bank of Irving and later guided its growth as president; he also  
10 founded Park Insurance Agency; following his retirement, he was  
11 called upon by the FDIC to restore Citizens State Bank to an "A"  
12 rating, a success that capped his 50-year career; and

13           WHEREAS, Mr. Umphress served his fellow citizens in myriad  
14 leadership roles, including director of the Irving Community  
15 Concert Series and the Irving Retail Merchants Executive Club; as  
16 president of the Irving Chamber of Commerce, he was instrumental in  
17 bringing Texas Stadium to Irving, and he was a member of the Texas  
18 Rangers' Club, which helped establish the baseball team; he served  
19 on the boards of Irving Community Hospital and the YMCA, and he gave  
20 generously of his time and expertise to the Lions Club and Rotary  
21 Club, among many other worthwhile organizations; a valued  
22 congregant of Plymouth Park Baptist Church, he was a member of the  
23 board of deacons and sang at many weddings and funerals; and

24           WHEREAS, Above all, Mr. Umphress was devoted to his family;

1 he shared 63 years of marriage with his wife, Peggy Sue Cantrell  
2 Umphress, before her passing, and he took great pride in his 3  
3 children, Brian, Pam, and Jan, as well as his 9 grandchildren,  
4 Autumn, Todd, Brandon, Lisa, Rian, Chris, Molli, Matti, and Bailey,  
5 and his 16 great-grandchildren; and

6 WHEREAS, The life of Ronald Umphress stands as an outstanding  
7 example of civic engagement, and although he is deeply missed by  
8 those he left behind, his work will be remembered and admired for  
9 years to come; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Ronald Keith Umphress  
12 and extend sincere condolences to his loved ones; and, be it further

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