

By: Craddick

H.C.R. No. 27

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Pioneering Texas vintner Hugo Edwin Auler passed
2 away on October 14, 2023, at the age of 78, bringing a great loss to
3 his family and many friends; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Mary and Hugo Auler, Ed Auler was born in
5 Austin on July 28, 1945; while a student at The University of Texas
6 at Austin, he met the love of his life, the former Susan Teeple, and
7 they were married on June 17, 1967; he enlisted in the U.S. Army
8 Reserve, and after completing his law degree, he joined the firm of
9 Kendall, Randall, Finch, and Osborne; he also began running his
10 family's Fall Creek Ranch in the Hill Country; in 1973, he and his
11 wife traveled to France to observe a cattle operation, and at her
12 suggestion, they explored the wine country, too; they ultimately
13 spent just three days looking at cattle and over two weeks learning
14 about wine in various regions; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Auler planted his own small vineyard at home
16 within two years and quickly expanded a quarter-acre plot to seven
17 and a half acres; in the 1980s, he gave up his law practice and
18 purchased 400 acres along the west side of Lake Buchanan to
19 establish Fall Creek Vineyards, blazing a trail for the development
20 of the Hill Country as a vibrant wine region; over the years, his
21 wines garnered hundreds of awards; he was a great champion of the
22 state's industry and advocated for legislation that has helped it
23 flourish; moreover, he was a mentor to many, and he and his wife
24 founded the Austin Food and Wine Festival; and

1 WHEREAS, Although wine was his passion, Mr. Auler was
2 involved in the energy, real estate, and banking industries as
3 well; he was a member of the advisory board of Frost Bank; dedicated
4 to his community, he served on the boards of numerous
5 organizations, among them St. David's Hospital Foundation and
6 St. Andrew's Episcopal School; he was president of the Admirals
7 Club of Austin and Tarry House; he received myriad accolades,
8 including the People of Vision Award from the Texas Society to
9 Prevent Blindness and the Service Award from the Colorado River
10 Foundation; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Auler loved the outdoors and traveling the world
12 with his wife; a pilot for 39 years, he introduced a future
13 commander of the Air Force One program to flying; he enjoyed playing
14 guitar and learning about history, geography, and archeology; above
15 all, he was devoted to his family; he took his sons, Chad and Mark,
16 on hunting and fishing trips and coached basketball when they were
17 young; in later years, he delighted in spending time with his
18 grandchildren and cheering them on at their athletic events and
19 dance recitals; and

20 WHEREAS, Admired for his kindness, patience, and dedication,
21 Ed Auler lived a caring and purposeful life, and he will be
22 remembered with admiration and affection by all who were privileged
23 to know him; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas,
25 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of Hugo Edwin
26 Auler and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family:
27 to his wife, Susan Auler; to his children, Chad Auler and his wife,

1 Stacy, and Mark Auler and his wife, Clary; to his grandchildren,
2 Yates, Charles, Ash, Daisy, and Shelby Auler; to his sister, Mary
3 Ann Meyers; and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
6 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
7 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of
8 Ed Auler.