

By: Hughes

S.R. No. 24

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family and friends will long cherish their memories  
2 of Dr. Jerry Ronald Payne Sr. of Hallsville, who passed away on  
3 July 17, 2023, at the age of 87; and

4           WHEREAS, The son of Luther Maldon Payne and Opal Donnis  
5 Dulany, Jerry Payne was born in Dodson, Louisiana, on December 10,  
6 1935; following his graduation from Bolton High School, he attended  
7 Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, where he  
8 went on to earn his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees; he  
9 married the love of his life, the former Marilyn Delaine Pippen, on  
10 August 24, 1957, and the couple shared a fulfilling marriage that  
11 spanned nearly six decades until her passing in 2014; they became  
12 the parents of 5 children, Mal, Ronnie, Donnis, Melissa, and  
13 Jeannie, and they later knew the joy of welcoming into their  
14 treasured family 15 grandchildren, Jon, Amy, Jacob, Jonah, Grant,  
15 Morgan, Katherine, Michael, Coby, Melody, Abby, Lily, Jaxon,  
16 Bronwyn, and Charlotte, and 2 great-grandchildren, Rayden and  
17 Isabel; and

18           WHEREAS, Dr. Payne embarked on his distinguished career in  
19 music education as a band director at Alexandria Junior High, and  
20 after a stint at Alexandria Senior High, he returned to  
21 Northwestern State to serve as director of bands; during this time,  
22 he also served his country in the United States Army National Guard  
23 and was called to active duty during the Berlin Crisis of 1961; in  
24 1977, he accepted the band director position in Marshall, and under

1 his able leadership, the Marshall High School "Big Red Pride" Band  
2 earned numerous honors; he retired in 2002 after more than 45 years  
3 as a music educator; and

4 WHEREAS, Following his retirement, Dr. Payne devoted himself  
5 to caring for his wife throughout her battle with Parkinson's  
6 disease; in his leisure time, he enjoyed traveling, cheering on the  
7 Texas Rangers, and spending time with his family and friends, and he  
8 continued his passion for music by giving private lessons and  
9 performing as a saxophone player; and

10 WHEREAS, Jerry Payne lived a life that was rich in personal  
11 and professional achievements, and he will forever be a source of  
12 inspiration to those he leaves behind; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature, 3rd  
14 Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Dr. Jerry  
15 Ronald Payne Sr. and extend sincere sympathy to all who mourn his  
16 passing; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
18 prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this  
19 day, it do so in memory of Dr. Jerry Payne.