

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 50

In Memory  
of  
Bill Dean

**WHEREAS**, A full and generous life drew to a close with the passing of Billie Joe Dean of Gilmer on August 20, 2023, at the age of 97; and

**WHEREAS**, The son of Jerry and Maggie Dean, Bill Dean was born in Upshur County on January 5, 1926, and he grew up with eight siblings, Ella, Gerald, John, Everett, Winnie, Rose, Margie, and Jerrienne; answering his nation's call to duty, he joined the U.S. Navy in 1942 at the age of 16; he was assigned to the Naval Construction Force as a member of the Seabees and served until 1946; and

**WHEREAS**, Returning to Upshur County, Mr. Dean exchanged wedding vows with the former Virginia Bowden on April 28, 1947; the couple raised their three children, Billy, Ginger, and Terry Joe, in Gilmer, where they permanently settled, and they shared more than seven and a half decades together before Mrs. Dean's passing; through the years, Mr. Dean had the pleasure of seeing his family grow to include 7 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandchild; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Dean was employed with Dean Lumber Company for numerous years, and he also owned and operated heavy equipment; a friend to many, he was beloved for his keen wit and wonderful sense of humor; he enjoyed playing checkers and dominoes in his leisure hours, especially the game of 42, and he earned a reputation for his ability to serve up a delicious pot of chili; a man of faith, he was a lifelong member of Gilmer Church of Christ; and

**WHEREAS**, Those who were privileged to share in this esteemed man's love and friendship will always remember him with great tenderness and affection; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 88th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Billie Joe Dean and extend heartfelt condolences to the members of his family: to his children, Billy Ray Dean and his wife, Brenda, and Ginger Cargal; to his grandchildren, Michael Dean Gage and his wife, Brandie, Rebekah Brown, Eric Dean, Luke Dean and his wife, Katie, Liz Couch and her husband, Randy, Sarah Smith and her husband, Russell, and Wesley Cargal and his wife, Amber; to his great-grandchildren, Dutch Dean Gage, Caleb, Hannah, and Abbie Brown, Mahri, Paisley, Charlotte, Jex, Norah, and Elliott Dean, Lauren and Brooke Couch, Riley and Reagan Smith, and Desiree Pierce; to his great-great-grandchild, Bohdi Allen Pierce; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Bill Dean.

Hughes

---

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on October 26, 2023, by a rising vote.

---

Secretary of the Senate

---

Member, Texas Senate