

By: Hughes

S.R. No. 50

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

1 a lifelong member of Gilmer Church of Christ; and

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

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

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