

By: Craddick

H.C.R. No. 28

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Autry Carl Stephens, a giant of the Permian Basin's
2 oil and gas industry, passed away on August 16, 2024, at the age of
3 86, bringing a great loss to his family and many friends; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Martin Elmore Stephens and Lila "Hazel"
5 Stephens, Autry Stephens was born in De Leon on March 8, 1938; he
6 grew up on the family farm and earned both his bachelor's and
7 master's degrees in petroleum engineering from The University of
8 Texas at Austin; during his early years with Humble Oil, he was
9 granted a leave of absence to serve in the U.S. Army Corps of
10 Engineers and rose to the rank of first lieutenant; he went on to
11 join First National Bank of Midland as a petroleum engineer and loan
12 officer before becoming a consultant and then an independent oil
13 producer; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Stephens established Endeavor Energy Resources
15 in 2000, and his diligence, determination, and willingness to take
16 bold risks built the company into a multibillion dollar enterprise
17 ranked among the nation's largest private oil producers; dedicated
18 to his employees, he was a caring, generous mentor and celebrated
19 all their achievements; he believed in handshake deals and enjoyed
20 the camaraderie of his profession, especially over a cup of coffee
21 at the Petroleum Club of Midland; under his leadership, Endeavor
22 engaged in extensive philanthropy, helping fund a new volunteer
23 fire station in eastern Midland County and supporting such
24 organizations as Habitat for Humanity and the Museum of the

1 Southwest; moreover, the firm became a founding member of the
2 Permian Strategic Partnership, a group of energy companies united
3 in the goal of improving education, health care, housing,
4 infrastructure, and workforce development; his myriad accolades
5 included a Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Texas Exes and the
6 prestigious Top Hand Award from the Permian Basin Petroleum
7 Association; and

8 WHEREAS, Above all, Mr. Stephens was devoted to his wife,
9 Linda, and their children, Joe and Lyndal; he eventually knew the
10 joy of welcoming two grandchildren into his treasured family, and
11 he delighted in hearing and sharing stories about all their antics
12 and accomplishments; and

13 WHEREAS, Autry Stephens created a legacy that will resonate
14 in the Permian Basin for years to come, and those he left behind
15 will cherish their memories of his warmth, kindness, courage, and
16 wonderfully dry sense of humor; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas
18 hereby pay tribute to the life of Autry Carl Stephens and extend
19 sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his wife, Linda
20 Nagy Stephens; to his children, Joseph Stephens and his wife,
21 Deanna, and Lyndal Stephens Greth and her husband, Richard; to his
22 grandchildren; to his sister, Debra, and her husband, Jack; and to
23 his many other relatives and friends; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
26 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of
27 Autry Stephens.