

By: Vasut

H.C.R. No. 49

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to  
2 a close with the passing of decorated Vietnam War veteran Clarence  
3 Eugene Sasser of Sandy Point on May 13, 2024, at the age of 76; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Willie Sasser Jr. and Alice Brown,  
5 Clarence Sasser was born in Chenango on September 2, 1947; he was  
6 raised by his mother and stepfather on a farm in Rosharon, where he  
7 grew up with his siblings and stepsiblings; after graduating from  
8 Marshall High School in 1965, he began studying chemistry at the  
9 University of Houston; he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1967,  
10 and he served in Vietnam as a medic with the 3rd Battalion, 60th  
11 Infantry, 9th Infantry Division; and

12 WHEREAS, On January 10, 1968, Private First Class Sasser was  
13 participating in a reconnaissance mission when enemies attacked his  
14 unit, killing more than 30 U.S. service members in the first few  
15 minutes; Private Sasser ran through a hail of bullets to help his  
16 injured comrades, and he continued to provide treatment even after  
17 being severely wounded; once the group had crawled to a safer area,  
18 he tended to the survivors for five hours before they were all  
19 evacuated; he recovered from his injuries in Japan, and he later  
20 accepted an assignment there; along the way, he rose to the rank of  
21 specialist fifth class; and

22 WHEREAS, In recognition of his courageous actions during the  
23 Vietnam War, Specialist Sasser was presented with the Medal of  
24 Honor by President Richard M. Nixon during a White House ceremony on

1 March 7, 1969; his other military honors included the Distinguished  
2 Service Cross, Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal,  
3 Vietnam Service Medal, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Sasser returned to civilian life in June 1969  
5 and continued his chemistry studies at Texas A&M University before  
6 accepting a position at a petrochemical refinery near Houston; he  
7 went on to enjoy a rewarding career as a decision review officer  
8 with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; and

9 WHEREAS, Active in his community, Mr. Sasser was president of  
10 the Northwest Brazoria County Servicemen's Association and a member  
11 of New St. Philip Missionary Baptist Church; among his many  
12 achievements, he was inducted into the Texas A&M Hall of Honor in  
13 2013 and was awarded an honorary doctor of letters degree from the  
14 university; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Sasser shared a fulfilling marriage with his  
16 wife, Ethel, that spanned many years before her passing, and he took  
17 great pride in their three sons, Benjamin Sasser and Rossano  
18 Dickey, who preceded their father in death, and Billy Sasser; and

19 WHEREAS, Clarence Sasser exemplified the highest ideals of  
20 the U.S. armed forces, and he leaves behind a record of service to  
21 his country that will continue to inspire all those who knew him;  
22 now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas  
24 hereby pay tribute to the life of Clarence Eugene Sasser and extend  
25 heartfelt sympathy to his loved ones; and, be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
27 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of

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1 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of  
2 Clarence Sasser.