

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A rich and purposeful life drew to a close on May 3,
2 2024, with the passing of Clyde Vance Dunnam of Waco at the age of
3 94; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Waco on November 6, 1929, Vance Dunnam grew
5 up in Speegleville and graduated from Waco High School; he earned
6 his bachelor's degree from Baylor University in 1951 and his juris
7 doctor degree from Baylor Law School the following year; and

8 WHEREAS, After obtaining his admission to the bar and a short
9 stint working for a Houston oil company, Mr. Dunnam joined his
10 father and brother at Dunnam & Dunnam, LLP, where he worked for
11 seven decades; over the course of his career, he earned a reputation
12 as one of the most skilled and successful trial attorneys in Central
13 Texas; he served as a mentor to hundreds of colleagues and further
14 contributed to his professional community as president of the
15 McLennan County Junior Bar Association and the Waco-McLennan County
16 Bar Association; through the years, he had the pleasure of
17 practicing with a number of family members, and he worked up until
18 the last weeks of his life; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1952, Mr. Dunnam married Vicki Hohertz, and they
20 shared in the joy of raising three children, Vance, Cathy, and Jim;
21 after his wife's death in 1995, he found love again with Merrilee
22 Lafferty Harmon, whom he wed in 1997; with the passing years, he
23 delighted in watching his cherished family grow to include numerous
24 grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and

1 WHEREAS, Active in his community, Mr. Dunnam held leadership
2 positions in several organizations, including the Scottish Rite,
3 the York Rite, and the Karem Shrine as well as the Waco Jaycees and
4 the Knights of Pythias; he was also a man of faith and a lifelong
5 member of the Methodist Church, where he taught Sunday school for
6 many years; in his leisure time, he enjoyed cattle and hay ranching,
7 sailing, riding his motorcycle, fly-fishing, beekeeping, hunting,
8 and any time that he could spend with his children and
9 grandchildren; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Dunnam especially took pride in the history and
11 success of Dunnam & Dunnam, LLP, where he worked for most of his
12 career, even up until a few weeks before his passing, and he truly
13 loved the fact that he successfully instilled the same pride in his
14 children and grandchildren; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Dunnam could not have been more loyal to his
16 lifelong friends and employees, no matter their politics, race, or
17 religion; in addition, he also worked tirelessly to mend all fences
18 with those who might have become estranged; and

19 WHEREAS, Although Vance Dunnam is deeply missed, memories of
20 his wisdom, his sense of humor, and his generosity remain to comfort
21 and inspire those he leaves behind; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
23 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Clyde Vance Dunnam and
24 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,
25 Merrilee L. Harmon; to his children, Vance Dunnam Jr. and his wife,
26 Irma, Cathy Dunnam Pleitz and her husband, Dan, and Jim Dunnam and
27 his wife, Michelle; to his grandchildren, Vanessa, Jennifer,

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1 Stephanie, Joshua, Jacob, Jordan, Lauren, Mason, and Rachel; to his
2 12 great-grandchildren; and to his other relatives and friends;
3 and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
5 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
6 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Vance
7 Dunnam.

Curry
Raymond

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 136 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 13, 2025.

Chief Clerk of the House