

By: Villalobos

H.R. No. 1498

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to
2 a close with the passing of Godfrey Vela of Corpus Christi on
3 May 28, 2025, at the age of 81; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Falfurrias on February 23, 1944, Godfrey
5 Vela grew up with the companionship of eight siblings; after
6 graduating from Falfurrias High School in 1963, he enrolled at
7 Texas A&I University; answering his nation's call to duty, he
8 joined the U.S. Army and served in the Vietnam War; he was honorably
9 discharged in 1969; and

10 WHEREAS, The following year, Mr. Vela married the former
11 Rosie Villarreal, and the couple shared a fulfilling union that
12 spanned five and a half decades; he took great pride in their three
13 children, Sonia, Susana, and Godfrey, and over the years, their
14 cherished family grew to include four grandchildren, Gregory,
15 Simone, Lily, and Godfrey; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Vela began taking night classes while working
17 full-time, and he earned a bachelor's degree in political science
18 from Texas A&I University in 1975 and an MBA from Corpus Christi
19 State University in 1980; he enjoyed a long and rewarding career
20 working for U.S. Steel and for Exxon, and he further benefited his
21 profession as president of the National Purchasing Management
22 Association; and

23 WHEREAS, Active in his community, Mr. Vela was on the
24 Selective Service Board in Nueces County and he was the veterans

1 service officer for Brooks County; he was also involved in the
2 Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, and Veterans
3 Affairs; an avid baseball fan, he served as a T-ball and Pony League
4 coach for his son and his grandson; and

5 WHEREAS, Godfrey Vela was a man of great compassion who
6 remained engaged in the world throughout his life and who found joy
7 and inspiration in helping others; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Godfrey Vela and
10 extend sincere condolences to his relatives and friends; and, be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
14 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Godfrey
15 Vela.