

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 49

In Memory
of
Curtis Jefferson Jr.

WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to a close with the passing of Pastor Curtis Jefferson Jr. of Weatherford on November 10, 2024, at the age of 79; and

WHEREAS, Curtis Jefferson was born to Curtis Jefferson Sr. and Pearlie Thomas-Jefferson on February 1, 1945, in Wortham, and he grew up with the companionship of five siblings, Ruby, Chrissie, Margaret, Sandra, and Willie; after graduating from the F. W. Wheeler School for African American students, where he distinguished himself as an outstanding athlete and salutatorian of his class, he went on to attend Navarro Junior College, becoming the school's first Black basketball player; and

WHEREAS, On March 17, 1962, Mr. Jefferson exchanged wedding vows with the former Sarah Jean Thomas, and they shared a fulfilling marriage that spanned more than five decades before her passing; together, the couple raised four children, Paula, Douglas, Darla, and Patrick, and through the years, Mr. Jefferson had the pleasure of seeing his family grow to include two grandchildren and a great-granddaughter; and

WHEREAS, Beginning in 1973, Mr. Jefferson worked for Gulf South Pipeline in Wortham and then for Chevron Pipe Line in Weatherford, spending 34 years with the companies; in 1987, he embarked on a distinguished career in the ministry, establishing New Hope Baptist Church in Weatherford as founding pastor; he served as the church's only pastor for three and a half decades until his retirement in 2022, and he preached at other area churches as well; civically engaged, he gave generously of his time to a number of boards and committees, including the Weatherford College Foundation Board, and he also coached youth sports; among many accolades, he received the Earl King Award from the Christian Men's Fellowship of Parker County, and the Weatherford City Council proclaimed March 27, 2022, as Pastor Curtis Jefferson Day in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Deeply dedicated to his family, his faith, and his community, Curtis Jefferson earned the lasting respect and admiration of all who were privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Pastor Curtis Jefferson Jr. and extend heartfelt condolences to the members of his family: to his children, Paula Jefferson-Gratts, Douglas Jefferson, and Patrick Jefferson; to his grandchildren, Nicole Jefferson-Theriot and her husband, Zach, and Andrianna Jefferson-Polk; to his great-granddaughter, Olivia Jean Theriot; to his sister-in-law, Jewell Maddox; to his brothers-in-law, Robert Young and Pastor Cecil Crutchfield; to his aunt, Lillie Thomas; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Curtis Jefferson.

King

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 18, 2025, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate