

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 700

In Memory
of
Kenneth Carter Jr.

WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to a close with the passing of Pastor Dr. Kenneth Eugene Carter Jr. of Tyler on April 6, 2025, at the age of 90; and

WHEREAS, The son of Kenneth E. Carter Sr. and Doris McAuliffe Carter, Ken Carter was born in San Antonio on February 18, 1935; he and his beloved younger sister, Camille, were mischievous partners throughout their childhood; he graduated from Amon Carter-Riverside High School in Fort Worth and earned his bachelor's degree in economics from the Rice Institute; he met his future wife, the former Mary Alice "Freddie" Frederick, while serving on the student council; they wed on February 14, 1955, and went on to share 70 years together; they were blessed with two children, Kathy and Buddy; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Carter served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, attaining the rank of first lieutenant; he remained in the Army Reserve for two years while employed by Ford Motor Company in Dallas; at a church retreat, he felt his call to the ministry, and he gave up his successful career to enter Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University; he served as youth minister at Kirkwood United Methodist Church in Irving and before completing his bachelor of divinity degree with honors, he was named pastor of Wheatland United Methodist Church in Dallas; attendance more than doubled during his tenure; in 1967, he was appointed senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in Carrollton; he and his wife trained in a new program, Evangelism Explosion, and they were instrumental in bringing it to thousands of people in North Texas; under Pastor Carter's dynamic leadership, membership in the church grew exponentially; he was awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Asbury Theological Seminary; after 16 years at FUMC, he joined A. L. Williams and then became senior vice president of Resource Services, a firm implementing fundraising for church-building programs; and

WHEREAS, While the passing of Ken Carter brings great sadness to his family and friends, he leaves behind a legacy that will long be treasured by all those who held him dear; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the life of Pastor Dr. Kenneth Eugene Carter Jr. and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife, Mary Alice Carter; to his daughter, Dr. Kathryn Allyson Carter; to his son, Kenneth E. Carter III, and his wife, Lori McAmis Carter; to his grandchildren, Joshua, Samuel, and Benjamin; to his great-grandchildren, Noah, Grae, Myles, Eli, Wade, and Charlie; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

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 Ken Carter.

Hughes

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on June 1, 2025, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate