

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

HOUSE
RESOLUTION 1034

By: Hiett and Askins

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution celebrating the life of Jim Barker; expressing sorrow for his untimely death and extending sympathy to his family; making a permanent record; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the shadow of grief has been cast upon this state at the passing of a very distinguished Oklahoman, former Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, Jim Barker; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Barker was a gentle man who led the House of Representatives during one of the most turbulent times in state history, steadfastly adhering to his high principles and courageously striving for what was best for the state, no matter what the personal cost; and

WHEREAS, firm in his convictions, Jim Barker never shirked from duty and always took full responsibility for the hard decisions that had to be made to bring this state through the difficulties of an era fraught with economic crisis; and

WHEREAS, this special man had a vision for the future of Oklahoma, a vision that propelled this state into a period of prosperity, a vision that provided the framework for developing programs to benefit all Oklahomans, a vision that created a better Oklahoma for our children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, during his sixteen years in the House of Representatives, Jim Barker won the respect of all for his commitment to this state and his thorough knowledge of state government; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being the only person to be elected Speaker four times, Jim Barker served as Vice Chair of the House Appropriations and Budget Committee for four years, thereby utilizing his business expertise to improve the effectiveness of the state budget process; and

WHEREAS, the call to public service was for Jim Barker a call to help Oklahoma achieve greatness and for this he will always be held in high esteem by the many Oklahomans who have benefited from his legacy; and

WHEREAS, although death has taken our colleague and close friend from us, he will never pass from our thoughts and the pain of his loss is tempered by the memory of what he has meant to us.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 50TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives, on behalf of the people of this state, celebrates the life of a truly great Oklahoman, Jim Barker.

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives hereby expresses deepest sorrow for the untimely death of Jim Barker and extends heartfelt sympathy to the family of Jim Barker.

THAT a copy of this resolution be spread upon the pages of the Journal of the Oklahoma House of Representatives as a permanent record of the sentiment and condolences expressed herein.

THAT duly authenticated copies of this resolution be dispatched to Jim Barker's wife, Kay Barker, his daughter, Janet Lambert and his son, Brad Barker.

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