

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 44

By: Easley

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution honoring Keeling Theodore McGaughey;
8 mourning his loss; and directing distribution.

9
10 WHEREAS, Keeling Theodore McGaughey was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma,
11 on November 12, 1925, the son of Frank and Gertrude McGaughey. His
12 family moved to Disney, Oklahoma, in 1938 where his father opened a
13 pharmacy. Keeling attended high school in Jay, Oklahoma. When the
14 local school bus driver became ill, sophomore Keeling volunteered to
15 drive the school bus, which he did for three consecutive years; and

16 WHEREAS, Keeling Theodore McGaughey graduated from high school
17 and attended Oklahoma State University. One of the first students
18 to receive a degree in Electrical Engineering with honors, he lived
19 in the basement of a funeral home while attending OSU and became a
20 licensed embalmer. On weekends, he hitchhiked home to work in his
21 father's pharmacy; and

22 WHEREAS, Keeling Theodore McGaughey went to work at the Grand
23 River Dam Authority (GRDA) upon graduating from college. It was his
24 one and only job after graduation. He worked for the GRDA for 48

1 years without ever taking a sick day. Keeling Theodore McGaughey
2 worked his way up from Chief Engineer, and completed his career as
3 Assistant General Manager in charge of Operations and Engineering;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Keeling Theodore McGaughey was recognized as one of the
6 world's foremost experts on hydroelectric dams. He consulted on
7 projects in Japan, Switzerland, and Germany. He was inspired as a
8 youth in the 1930s by the construction of the world's longest
9 multiple arch dam which spanned the river between Langley and
10 Disney, Oklahoma, and which he witnessed being built in his
11 backyard. He was to devote his professional life to this project;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Keeling Theodore McGaughey was unofficially known as
14 "Mr. GRDA". He received too many honors and awards to mention.
15 Most recently he was honored by Oklahoma State University in 2008;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Keeling Theodore McGaughey successfully petitioned the
18 State Bank Examiner for the first charter of the Bank of the Lakes
19 in 1973. He remained on their Board of Directors until his passing.
20 He also was a contributor to the Tulsa Scottish Rite Charitable and
21 Educational Foundation; and

22 WHEREAS, Keeling Theodore McGaughey died November 8, 2008, just
23 four days short of his 83rd birthday. He is survived by his wife of
24 52 years, as well as a son, two grandchildren, and three great-

1 grandchildren. He was a family man who will be missed by his loving
2 relatives, his former coworkers, and all his friends and neighbors
3 in the Grand Lake community.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
5 OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

6 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate honors the dedication,
7 professionalism, and perseverance of the late Keeling Theodore
8 McGaughey.

9 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate joins the family and friends of
10 Keeling Theodore McGaughey in mourning the loss of this devoted
11 professional engineer, family man, and community leader.

12 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Keeling
13 Theodore McGaughey's wife, Idella McGaughey; son, Ron Large and his
14 wife Bev; grandsons, Chris and Scott Large and their wives Natalie
15 and Kala; great-grandchildren, Rohan, Ravi, and Lily; and the
16 General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of the Grand River Dam
17 Authority.

18
19 52-1-1790 THC 4/23/2009 11:00:52 AM

20
21
22
23
24