

Hidalgo County

Resolution honoring Melba Huber, founder and owner of Melba's Dance School

Whereas born near Beaumont, Texas on October 1, 1927, Melba Huber hardly knew life without dance. She started dancing in 1932 at the age of 5; and

Whereas her mother, Melba Stewart, played piano providing music for her daughter's ballet and tap classes in exchange for tuition. In those days, even phonographs and vinyl records were not widely available; and

Whereas after attending and teaching at Lamar University, she became a student at the University of Texas in Austin where she started UT's first permanent dance team. In 1947, she was selected Miss Austin. She taught dance at the historic Huston-Tillotson University and then opened a dance studio in Austin, but soon found herself moving to Canada where her husband, Bill Kinsolving, was transferred. After another job transfer, the young couple found themselves moving to their permanent home in McAllen; and

Whereas in 1958, Huber opened Melba's Dance School in McAllen. She built the first building in McAllen dedicated to dance on Sycamore Avenue, but soon outgrew it. She moved to the present location at 2100 N. 10th Street and began to acquire properties around the small clothing store she had purchased; and

Whereas in 2007, when Melba's Dance School celebrated 50 years of dancing, Melba was overjoyed when friends, former dance students and teachers came from far and wide to celebrate with her; and

Whereas several generations of Hidalgo County families have been taught the art of dance at Melba's studio making the school a rite of passage for many in the local performing arts community; and

Whereas Melba Huber passed away at the age of 93 on April 24, 2021. She is survived by her son Carey (Lisa) Kinsolving, son Keith (Holly) Kinsolving and granddaughters Lindsay Kinsolving, Emily Kinsolving and Kylie Kinsolving. She was preceded in death by her parents, Carl and Melba Stewart, her husband, Jim Huber, and her daughter, Melba Laurin Huber and her previous husband Bill Kinsolving; and

Whereas Melba was impressed with Martin Luther's declaration that eternal salvation is a gift to be received by faith in Christ alone and not a reward to be earned. Perhaps the gift of God's grace she received at a young age motivated her generosity. Through the years, there have been dance students whose families struggled to pay their monthly dance bill but Melba always found a way for her students to continue. Many of them assisted in teaching classes to younger dancers.

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court hereby recognizes the beautiful life of Melba Huber and the gift of God's grace she received at a young age motivating her generosity. May she forever be remembered, honored and thanked for sharing her gift with so many in Hidalgo County.

Approved this 4th day of May 2021.



Richard F. Cortez

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

David L. Fuentes

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

Everardo "Ever" Villarreal

EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

Ellie Torres

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Arturo Guajardo, Jr.

Attest: **ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.**
County Clerk