

Memorial Resolution
In Honor of Robert C. Hunt

Whereas, the Board of Directors and employees of the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority are deeply sorrowed with the passing of Robert C. (R.C.) Hunt of Paradise Valley on October 22, 2005; and

Whereas, R.C. was the patriarch of one of the nation's leading privately held construction companies, and the foremost builder of stadiums and arenas in the United States; and

Whereas, under R.C.'s leadership, Hunt Construction has built numerous community landmarks including Bank One Ballpark, the America West Arena, Phoenix City Hall, Good Samaritan Hospital, the Desert Ridge Marriott, the Sheraton at Wild Horse Pass, the new Phoenix Civic Center expansion, and many more significant buildings in the Valley; and

Whereas, nationwide, Hunt Construction has built over 70 stadiums and arenas, and nearly all of the retractable roof stadiums in the United States; and

Whereas, R.C. (or "Pops" as his employees liked to call him) had a particular affection for "his" project, and when the challenges to completion of this project were at their greatest in 2001 and 2002, R.C. continued to have faith in the project and work with the Authority; and

Whereas, R.C. kept the company's interest in the project at a high level in spite of the many challenges faced by the Authority and so demonstrated by finding other work for key personnel until the project could get started; and

Whereas, there were hard negotiations on a design-build agreement and a "guaranteed maximum price", but for R.C. it was also about building an excellent facility that will bring credit to our community and our state; and

Whereas, as an active 25-year Fiesta Bowl volunteer and a member of the Executive Committee and as the builder of the Super Dome in New Orleans that for years was the busiest and most versatile domed football stadium in the country, R.C. knew how important this stadium will be to the Valley's future; and

Whereas, the funeral service for R.C. was full of kind words for the decency and integrity of R.C. and the company he ran for four decades since his father's death; and

Whereas, R.C. will be dearly missed, but the project remains in very good hands due to the values, loyalty and company culture that R.C. instilled, which should serve us well as we continue to march toward a successful completion of R.C.'s last great project over the next 9 months;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Board of Directors of the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority wish to pay tribute to R.C. and his important contributions to our community and our state by dedicating the completion of the stadium to his memory, and in consideration of same do hereby authorize the creation of a memorial plaque to be prominently displayed at the main public entrance to the stadium in his memory and the work of R.C. and his company.