Resolution
Honoring the Life & Legacy of Evangelist Billy Graham

WHEREAS William Franklin “Billy” Graham, Jr. was born on Nov. 7, 1918 and died on Feb. 21, 2018.

WHEREAS In 1934, at age 15, Mr. Graham accepted the Christ as his personal Savior through the ministry of a traveling evangelist holding revival meetings in Charlotte, North Carolina. Five years later, he was ordained by Peniel Baptist Church in Palatka, Fla. and received education at Florida Bible Institute and Wheaton College in Illinois.

WHEREAS In 1943, Mr. Graham married fellow Wheaton student Ruth McCue Bell, who grew up in China as the daughter of a missionary surgeon.

WHEREAS Mr. and Mrs. Graham exemplified obedience to our Lord’s words in Mark 16:15: “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.”

WHEREAS Mr. Graham’s 1949 Los Angeles Crusade continued for over 8 weeks and launched his ministry to new prominence in the public eye.

WHEREAS Throughout his life, Mr. Graham preached the Gospel to 215 million people who attended one of his more than 400 crusades, simulcasts, and evangelistic rallies in more than 185 countries and territories.

WHEREAS Mr. Graham was a leader in using technology in service to his Lord, and he reached millions through television, film, the internet, and 34 books.

WHEREAS Mr. Graham was inducted into NRB’s Hall of Fame in 1981, received the Chairman’s Award in 1989, and was honored with the association’s Milestone Award in 2001.

WHEREAS The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, founded in 1950, has been recognized with a number of NRB awards, including two Awards of Merit and awards for the Best TV Commercial, Best TV Public Service Announcement, Best TV Special Programming, Best TV Mixed Media Campaign, and Best Use of Short Form Video.

WHEREAS At his last crusade in 2005, Mr. Graham said, “I have one message: that Jesus Christ came, he died on a cross, he rose again, and he asked us to repent of our sins and receive him by faith as Lord and Savior, and if we do, we have forgiveness of all of our sins.”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED NRB honors the powerful life and legacy of Evangelist Billy Graham and praises God for Mr. Graham’s century in this world as a truly good and faithful servant to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Approved by the Board of Directors February 27, 2018