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CONTACT: Eden Tomberlin
Houston Healthcare
478-550-3619
etomberlin@hhc.org

Houston Healthcare Mourns the Passing of Board Member Roy H. "Sonny" Watson, Jr.

Photo attached. Photo cutline: Mr. Watson stands in his office at the Roy H. "Sonny" Watson Health Pavilion surrounded by tokens of appreciation for his service.

WARNER ROBINS, GA – It is with regret that Houston Healthcare announces the passing of Chairman Emeritus, Roy H. "Sonny" Watson, Jr., on January 9, 2024. Born on April 20, 1937, in Wellston, Georgia, Mr. Watson's significant contributions spanned various sectors, leaving an enduring mark on Houston Healthcare and the Houston County community.



Mr. Watson served on the Houston County Hospital Authority from 2005-2008 and as Chairman of Houston Healthcare System, Inc. from 2008-2022. Over his 18-year tenure, he played a key role in guiding Houston Healthcare through expansions and improvements. His legacy is deeply ingrained in the organization.

Beyond healthcare, Mr. Watson had a notable business career, from owning Embeco, Inc., to serving as Chairman and CEO, as well as leading

Watson Insurance Agency, Inc. He graduated from Georgia Military College and attended Mercer University in Macon.

His commitment to public service was evident during his 17 years as Clerk and Administrator for Houston County, Georgia, and his 22 years in the Georgia Legislature. Mr. Watson's involvement in civic organizations included serving on the Board of Directors for the Museum of Aviation.

In recognition of his outstanding service, facilities such as the Roy H. "Sonny" Watson Boardroom, Roy H. "Sonny" Watson Health Pavilion, and the Roy H. "Sonny" Watson Health Science Building and Wellness Complex stand as testaments to his legacy.

Mr. Watson is survived by his wife, Jeanne Phillips, daughter Cynthia W. Rearden, grandchildren Jennifer Spence and Joseph Rearden, and eight great-grandchildren.

Houston Healthcare extends its condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Watson. His contributions will be remembered as a lasting influence on the organization and the broader community.

About Houston Healthcare

Houston Healthcare serves over 300,000 people every year in multiple locations throughout Houston County. Our 282 inpatient beds, three urgent care facilities, nine physician practices and numerous ancillary services have one goal—taking care of the people that call Houston County and surrounding communities home. We provide a wide range of services, including: inpatient and outpatient surgery, Maternity and Level 2 neonatal intensive care, Advanced cardiovascular care, Urgent care, an intensive care unit with continuous electronic monitoring and full time intensive care specialists, Advanced imaging services, Psychiatric care, Physical and cardiac/pulmonary rehabilitation, Orthopedics and joint replacement, Oncology treatment, wound care and 24-hour emergency care. For more information, please visit www.hhc.org.

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