Whereas, Lt. Col. Wayne Wilbanks was born in Mt. Pleasant, Texas, in 1951 and graduated from Sherman High School in 1969; and

Whereas, he married his high school sweetheart, Barbara Golden, and they had three children, Jennifer, Matthew and Marcus; and

Whereas, Lt. Col. Wilbanks received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Education at North Texas State University and a Master of Education from the University of the Philippines, also completing Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff and Air War College; and

Whereas, he was commissioned to the U.S. Air Force in 1973 and served for 22 years, logging over 5,000 flight hours as co-pilot, aircraft commander and instructor and evaluation pilot, flying the T-37, C-141, T-38, T-39, C-23, and C-12 aircrafts; and

Whereas, his career as an Air Force Junior ROTC Aerospace Instructor started in Jenks, Oklahoma, where he began a new program and realized his passion for educating young people, molding their character and instilling leadership values; and

Whereas, Lt. Col. Wilbanks began the AFJROTC program at Wylie High School in 2000, leading it to be named an Outstanding Unit for nine years, and together with colleague Master Sgt. J.J. Smith, began the program at Wylie East High School in 2010, also leading it to be named an Outstanding Unit for all six years; and

Whereas, Lt. Col. Wilbanks has served the country’s citizens as a member of the U.S. Air Force, and he embodies the objectives of the AFJROTC, which are to “educate and train high school cadets in citizenship and life skills, promote community service, instill responsibility, character, and self-discipline through character education, and to provide instruction in air and space fundamentals”.

Now therefore, I, Eric Hogue, Mayor of the City of Wylie, Texas, on behalf of the Wylie City Council and the Citizens of Wylie, am honored to proclaim the 16th day of May 2016, as

“Lt. Col. Wayne Wilbanks Day”

in the City of Wylie, Texas.

Eric Hogue, Mayor
City of Wylie
State of Texas