

By: Dutton

H.R. No. 2424

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 99th birthday of an esteemed Texan is truly
2 cause for celebration, and C. P. Sloan is celebrating this joyous
3 occasion on June 1, 2023, to the delight of his family and friends;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Born to Harvey and Margaret Sloan in Navarro County
6 in 1924, "Buck" Sloan grew up with six siblings; he learned to play
7 the guitar as a boy, and when his father was forced to sell the
8 instrument to buy flour during the Great Depression, little Buck
9 made one out of a cooking oil can in order to keep practicing; his
10 grandfather then used his first pension check to buy him a \$4.98
11 Silvertone guitar from Sears & Roebuck; the family later moved to
12 Lufkin, where he began playing with a band called the East Texas Hay
13 Rakers; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Sloan was inducted into the U.S. Army in
15 February 1943; a few weeks after the Normandy Landing, he was sent
16 to help fill in the ranks of the Second Infantry Division, B
17 Company, 3rd Platoon, 3rd Squad; armed with a Browning Automatic
18 Rifle, he fought in fierce battles to liberate the city of Brest;
19 his canteen was shot off, his cheek was grazed by machine gun
20 bullets, and men died all around him, but he forged on and captured
21 a group of some 30 German soldiers; on December 18, 1944, during the
22 Battle of the Bulge, he was severely wounded by a German hand
23 grenade; among numerous decorations, he received the Purple Heart,
24 the French Legion of Honor, and five battle stars; and

1 WHEREAS, Following his demobilization on July 14, 1945,
2 Mr. Sloan returned home and began performing around Harris County
3 with such bands as Dee Turner and the Serenaders and Art Stockwell &
4 the Circle R Ranch Hands; he eventually formed the Buckshots, and
5 they became the house band at the Hitching Rail; many of the state's
6 best musicians came to sit in when they were in town, among them
7 members of the Bob Wills Band; later, the group did a four-year
8 stint at the Jacinto City Opry; in 2011, Mr. Sloan and his wife,
9 Shirley, opened their own dancehall, the Buckshot Jamboree, notable
10 for both the music and their display of collectibles and
11 memorabilia, including his beloved Silvertone; he was inducted into
12 both the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest Hall of Fame
13 and the Bandera Music History Project Hall of Fame; in 2022, he
14 returned for the first time to France, where he was formally
15 welcomed to the Normandy Victory Museum; he also hosted his 46th
16 Annual Musician's Reunion in Bandera; and

17 WHEREAS, Over the course of 99 years, Buck Sloan has bravely
18 served his country and enriched the lives of innumerable people
19 through his music, and he is a source of inspiration to all who are
20 fortunate enough to know him; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
22 Legislature hereby congratulate C. P. "Buck" Sloan on the occasion
23 of his 99th birthday and extend to him sincere best wishes for
24 continued happiness; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for Mr. Sloan as an expression of high regard by the Texas
27 House of Representatives.