

By: Rose

H.R. No. 90

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Longtime Texas State University drama teacher and
2 veteran character actor Larry Hovis passed away on September 9,
3 2003, at the age of 67, and his untimely loss has left a void in the
4 lives of his family, friends, former students, and countless fans
5 and admirers; and

6 WHEREAS, Born in Wapito, Washington, on February 20, 1936,
7 Mr. Hovis moved to Houston with his family at the age of three and
8 enjoyed early show business success as a vocalist, first in a duo
9 with his sister Joan and later as a member of a quartet called the
10 Mascots; he recorded the album *My Heart Belongs to Only You* for
11 Capitol Records while completing a degree in philosophy from the
12 University of Houston and relocated shortly thereafter to New York
13 City, where he appeared on Broadway in *The Billy Barnes Review* and
14 *From A to Z*; and

15 WHEREAS, After moving to California in 1963, Mr. Hovis gained
16 recognition as a stand-up comedian, which led to recurring roles on
17 *Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C.* and *The Andy Griffith Show*; a prolific and
18 multitalented entertainer, he was best known for his role as the
19 dim-witted explosives expert Sergeant Andrew Carter on the hit
20 sitcom *Hogan's Heroes*, which aired from 1965 to 1971 and remains
21 popular in syndication; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Hovis was also a talented writer who wrote and
23 performed sketches on the groundbreaking variety show *Rowan and*
24 *Martin's Laugh-In* and scripted the 1966 feature film *Out of Sight*;

1 he later guest-starred on a number of popular television series,
2 including *The Doris Day Show*, *Adam-12*, and *Chico and the Man*, and he
3 also produced and appeared on several game shows, most notably the
4 quirky panel show *Liar's Club*; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Hovis joined the faculty of Texas State
6 University in 1990 and fast became one of the school's most popular
7 teachers; in addition to teaching acting and characterization
8 courses, he developed the school's TV and film acting program and
9 also starred as Mr. Schlegel in the school's production of the
10 classic musical *Carnival*, a memorable production that was a great
11 success for the university's department of theater and dance; and

12 WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Mr. Hovis was preceded in
13 death by his wife Ann, with whom he shared a 40-year union blessed
14 with four children; he was a beloved friend and mentor to students,
15 colleagues, and fellow performers, and although he will be deeply
16 missed by the many people who were privileged to know this
17 remarkable man, his memory will endure through his body of work and
18 his myriad contributions to the performing arts; now, therefore, be
19 it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
21 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
22 Larry Hovis and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his
23 family; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
26 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Larry
27 Hovis.