

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 43

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of retired Colonel Ernest Lee Worley,
2 Jr., of Del Rio on March 12, 2004, at the age of 84, has deeply
3 saddened the family and many friends of this distinguished war hero
4 and community volunteer; and

5 WHEREAS, Born on October 3, 1919, in Krum, Colonel Worley
6 graduated from Denton High School and attended North Texas
7 University; in May 1941, he left college to enlist in the U.S. Army
8 Air Corps and served his country with distinction during World War
9 II; involved in numerous battles in the European Theater, Colonel
10 Worley most notably participated in the landing party that stormed
11 Normandy Beach in 1944, earning the Bronze Star for heroic action
12 during the invasion; and

13 WHEREAS, After returning to the United States, Colonel Worley
14 was stationed on the island of Guam for two years; later, he was
15 sent to Morocco, North Africa, as well as to duty stations in the
16 United States, and he served in the Strategic Air Command's SR 71
17 program in California; and

18 WHEREAS, Colonel Worley retired in 1967 and returned to Del
19 Rio, where he had once served; he worked for more than 30 years as
20 the volunteer director of the local branch of the Salvation Army and
21 was a longtime member and former president of the Rotary Club; he
22 also served as a member of the Del Rio International Airport Board
23 and as treasurer for the Val Verde Friends of the Arts in addition
24 to volunteering his time to deliver Meals on Wheels to shut-ins; and

1 WHEREAS, Exceedingly proud of the Eagle Scout badge he earned
2 as a young man, Colonel Worley enjoyed working as an adult leader
3 for the Boy Scouts of America; furthermore, he was an active member
4 of the First United Methodist Church in Del Rio, and in 1995 he
5 received the Martin Luther King Jr. Award from the Southwest Texas
6 Annual Conference of United Methodist Church; and

7 WHEREAS, Colonel Worley leaves behind a truly notable legacy
8 of service to his nation and community, and this distinguished
9 Texan who spent his life working in behalf of other people will not
10 soon be forgotten; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
12 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
13 retired Colonel Ernie Worley, Jr., and extend sincere sympathy to
14 the members of his family: to his beloved wife, Zina; to his four
15 children, Cecil Worley Brezina, Ernest Lee Worley III, Seth Elliot
16 Worley, and Robin Elisabeth Worley; to his three grandchildren,
17 Ernest Lee Worley IV, Benjamin Elliot Worley, and Virginia Lee
18 Worley; to his brother, Edwin Worley; and to his other relatives and
19 many friends; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Colonel
23 Ernest "Ernie" Lee Worley, Jr.