

By: Rose

H.R. No. 305

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents of Blanco County lost a beloved friend and  
2 neighbor with the death of William Maurice "Bill" Watson on  
3 December 27, 2003, at the age of 73; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in LaBelle, Florida, in 1930, Mr. Watson moved  
5 to Johnson City in the 1980s with his wife, Joy, who is a native of  
6 that Hill Country town; a retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel and a  
7 former resident manager of Blanco County's Browning Ranch, Mr.  
8 Watson was known throughout the community as the volunteer  
9 president and director of the North Blanco County Emergency Medical  
10 Services (EMS) department; he staffed an ambulance during high  
11 school football games and worked as a driver and paramedic for the  
12 volunteer department; and

13           WHEREAS, Although it is not unusual for EMS directors in  
14 rural areas to work for free, Mr. Watson's level of commitment was  
15 extraordinary; a masterful administrator, fund-raiser, and  
16 speaker, he was able to retain a healthy pool of volunteers and to  
17 finance equipment purchases through bake sales, garage sales, and,  
18 later, a successful appeal to area residents to vote for the  
19 establishment of an emergency services district that would provide  
20 tax money for the department; because there is no hospital in Blanco  
21 County, a proficient EMS is crucial, and Mr. Watson's dedication  
22 went a long way toward making the North Blanco County EMS one of the  
23 best of all volunteer emergency services in the state; and

24           WHEREAS, His civic involvement went beyond his capable

1 management of the EMS department; chairman of the Capital Area  
2 Trauma Regional Advisory Council, Mr. Watson was also an organizing  
3 member of the Hill Country Critical Incident Stress Management Team  
4 and an active member and former Grand Master of Johnson City Masonic  
5 Lodge No. 561; he will be fondly remembered for his attendance at  
6 nearly every Johnson City sporting event and commissioners court  
7 meeting held in the past 10 years; and

8 WHEREAS, Described by one local resident as the community's  
9 "medical angel of healing," this gentle, giving man touched  
10 countless lives throughout Blanco County; although he will be  
11 sorely missed by his family, friends, and neighbors, the legacy of  
12 community service, goodwill, and generosity that he leaves behind  
13 will not soon be forgotten; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
15 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby honor the memory of William  
16 Maurice "Bill" Watson and extend sincere sympathy to the members of  
17 his family: to his wife, Joy Watson; to his children, William Morris  
18 Watson, Brenda Lynn Williams, and Denise Mick; to his brother,  
19 Stanley Watson; to his six grandchildren and great-grandchild; and  
20 to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
22 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
23 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of William  
24 Maurice "Bill" Watson.