

By: Marchant

H.R. No. 34

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas lost a distinguished public
2 servant with the passing of the Honorable Jack Blanton of
3 Carrollton on October 12, 2002, at the age of 81; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on January 29, 1921, in Shawnee, Kansas, Mr.
5 Blanton moved with his family to Carrollton in 1931 and graduated
6 from Carrollton High School in 1938 before entering Southern
7 Methodist University; when World War II began, he left college to
8 build airstrips for the war effort but returned years later and
9 completed his bachelor's degree in history and government in 1955;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Blanton served one term as mayor of Carrollton,
12 from 1946 to 1948, and in 1966 he won election to the first of three
13 terms in the Texas House of Representatives; during his tenure in
14 state government he made many significant contributions, including
15 a bill he introduced in 1969 that established The University of
16 Texas at Dallas; and

17 WHEREAS, In addition to his work in the legislature, Mr.
18 Blanton devoted his time and energy to a number of worthwhile
19 organizations, serving as a Boy Scout leader, member of the Red
20 Cross, and president of the Carrollton/Farmers Branch Rotary Club;
21 he was also an active congregant at Holy Covenant United Methodist
22 Church and a member of the Carrollton and James A. Smith Masonic
23 lodges; and

24 WHEREAS, The professional experiences of Mr. Blanton were

1 myriad and included working for his family business, the Blanton
2 Grain Co., as well as on the family farm; he was employed with Lone
3 Star Gas while he finished college and served as editor for the
4 *Carrollton Chronicle* and the *Carrollton Star*; furthermore, he was a
5 founder of the First National Bank in Carrollton and a chairman of
6 its board of directors; and

7 WHEREAS, Throughout his career in public service, Jack
8 Blanton devoted his efforts to making government work for the
9 benefit of all its citizens; although he is gone from us now, his
10 legacy of achievement will live on for generations to come; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of the Honorable Jack
14 Blanton and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to
15 his beloved wife of 60 years, Marian Blanton; to his daughters, Joan
16 Wood and Mary Watts; to his sister, Betty Sumner; to his brother,
17 Bill Blanton; to his six grandchildren; and to his other relatives
18 and many friends.