

By: Campbell

H.R. No. 53

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The San Angelo community lost a local icon with the
2 passing of Samuel T. H. "Sam" Lewis on January 10, 2003, but the
3 legend and accomplishments of this remarkable gentleman will
4 continue on in the hearts of Texans everywhere; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Lewis lived a life as large as the state he loved
6 so dearly; a bold and adventurous businessman, he plied many trades
7 in his community, but his greatest assets were ideas and an
8 ever-present smile framed by a cowboy hat and black-rimmed glasses;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, A love of country made him a B-29 tail gunner in
11 World War II; his love for a ubiquitous, armor-plated mammal, the
12 armadillo, made him famous; and

13 WHEREAS, The quintessential Texan, Mr. Lewis' lifelong
14 fascination with armadillos is primarily responsible for equating
15 the critter with the Lone Star State in the minds of people around
16 the globe; he was owner of the World Armadillo Breeding and Racing
17 Association and president of the International Armadillo
18 Appreciation Society; and

19 WHEREAS, His spicy sense of humor led Mr. Lewis to make
20 jalapeno lollipops and pepper-flavored ice cream; his talent for
21 promotion enabled him to successfully market these culinary
22 contradictions; and

23 WHEREAS, With a keen sense of showmanship, Mr. Lewis made the
24 concocting of chili a competitive event and brought laughter and

1 outrageous fun to the beautifully barren landscapes of Terlingua;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, With his wife of over 50 years, Betty, Mr. Lewis
4 raised two children, Kathleen Maxwell and Samuel Lewis, Jr., and
5 was a friend and neighbor to all who shared his community of San
6 Angelo; this enterprising and entertaining ambassador of the Lone
7 Star State brought the spirit and uniqueness of Texas to the movie
8 screen and to humble and hallowed halls the world over, winning
9 friends and admirers with his gentle goodness and sly humor; now,
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
12 Legislature honor the life and long shadow cast by Sam Lewis and
13 extend sincere sympathy to his family: to his children, Kathleen
14 Maxwell and Samuel Lewis, Jr.; to his two grandsons; to his two
15 brothers and four sisters; and to his host of friends; and, be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas House
19 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Samuel
20 T. H. Lewis.