

By: Cook of Colorado

H.R. No. 789

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The passing of the Honorable Elmer A. Struss, former  
2 mayor of Eagle Lake, on February 24, 2003, at the age of 80, has  
3 brought a great loss to the friends and relatives of this esteemed  
4 gentleman, civic leader, and public servant; and

5           WHEREAS, Born on May 21, 1922, in Garwood, Mr. Struss  
6 graduated third in his class at Eagle Lake High School and attended  
7 Southwest Texas State University before transferring to The  
8 University of Texas at Austin, where he attended law school and  
9 earned his bachelor's degree in 1943; following his studies, Mr.  
10 Struss answered his nation's call to arms and enlisted in the United  
11 States Navy, attending Midshipmen's School in Chicago and serving  
12 aboard the USS *Cushing* during World War II; and

13           WHEREAS, On his return to civilian life in Eagle Lake in 1946,  
14 Mr. Struss joined the staff of the business owned and operated by  
15 his family since 1912, A. J. Struss Auto Supply; highly respected  
16 for his integrity and friendliness, he served as city alderman from  
17 1968 until 1970 and as mayor from 1970 to 1986, the longest  
18 consecutive term of any mayor in the city's history; and

19           WHEREAS, In addition to his many contributions to his  
20 community, this distinguished Texan took an active role in  
21 campaigns at both the state and federal levels, and in 1975 he  
22 attended Inauguration Day ceremonies at the Texas State Capitol as  
23 the personal guest of Governor Dolph Briscoe and Lieutenant  
24 Governor Bill Hobby; and

1           WHEREAS, Mr. Struss brought intelligence and warmth to every  
2 facet of his life, whether personal, political, or professional,  
3 and although his presence is gone from us now, he will be long  
4 remembered by the many people whose lives he touched during his  
5 years on this earth; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
7 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of the Honorable Elmer A.  
8 Struss and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family: to  
9 his sons and daughters-in-law, John Struss, Darrell and Monique  
10 Struss, Sidney and Barbara Struss, and Warren and Colleen Struss;  
11 to his grandchildren, Mark Hogge, Tommy Hogge, Vanessa Struss,  
12 Stephanie Struss, and Brandon Struss; to his six  
13 great-grandchildren; and to his other relatives and many friends;  
14 and, be it further

15           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas House  
17 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of the  
18 Honorable Elmer A. Struss.