

By: Chavez

H.R. No. 920

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Words cannot adequately express the sorrow felt at  
2 the loss of Private First Class Lori Ann Piestewa of Tuba City,  
3 Arizona, who died in the Iraqi campaign on March 23, 2003, at the  
4 age of 23; and

5 WHEREAS, Private Piestewa, an automated logistics  
6 specialist, was one of nine soldiers from the army's 507th  
7 Maintenance Company who lost their lives in an ambush in southern  
8 Iraq; she was the first American servicewoman to be killed in that  
9 conflict and the first Hopi woman and first Native American woman to  
10 die in combat while serving in the United States armed forces; and

11 WHEREAS, This courageous soldier was descended from the Bear  
12 clan, traditional leaders of the Hopi people; she herself showed an  
13 aptitude for leadership at a young age, serving as commanding  
14 officer of the Junior ROTC while a student at Tuba City High School;  
15 when she joined the military two and a half years ago, she followed  
16 in the footsteps of her father, who served in Vietnam, and a  
17 grandfather who served in World War II; and

18 WHEREAS, A strong woman who took pride in her Hopi heritage,  
19 Private Piestewa won affectionate respect for her levelheadedness  
20 and for her wide smile and friendly nature; she was an inspiring  
21 role model in the Hopi community and a loving, nurturing mother to  
22 her four-year-old son and three-year-old daughter; and

23 WHEREAS, Americans owe an immeasurable debt to their military  
24 personnel, whose brave and steadfast efforts have long secured this

1 nation's treasured freedom; through her unwavering devotion to  
2 duty, honor, and her country, Private Piestewa embodied the highest  
3 ideals of the United States armed forces, and the State of Texas and  
4 the nation now mourn the loss of a hero who made the ultimate  
5 sacrifice in her country's behalf and whose life was a blessing to  
6 all who were privileged to share her love and friendship; now,  
7 therefore, be it

8         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Private First Class  
10 Lori Ann Piestewa and extend deep sympathy to the members of her  
11 family: to her parents, Percy and Terry Piestewa; to her son,  
12 Brandon, and her daughter, Carla; and to the other relatives and  
13 many friends of this beloved American soldier; and, be it further

14         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for the members of her family and that when the Texas House  
16 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Private  
17 First Class Lori Ann Piestewa.