

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Silver Star Medal is awarded by the United
2 States of America to soldiers who have demonstrated gallantry in
3 action while engaged in military operations, involving an
4 accomplishment that has been performed with exceptional and truly
5 remarkable bravery; this military decoration is reserved for the
6 most elite men and women in uniform, and today the members of this
7 chamber join in remembrance of one such Silver Star recipient,
8 Captain Russell W. Condon, whose family has traveled here to the
9 State Capitol on the 38th anniversary of his death; and

10 WHEREAS, Born on January 8, 1932, Captain Condon was a native
11 of Humble and a graduate of Texas A&M University, where he served
12 with distinction as a member of the Corps of Cadets; he joined the
13 United States Army at the height of the Cold War, quickly earning
14 the respect of his fellow soldiers and commanding officers; in
15 addition to receiving letters of commendation for his service to
16 the U.S. armed forces in Germany, he was presented with a special
17 letter from President Lyndon B. Johnson that honored his
18 meritorious service to the United States; and

19 WHEREAS, In the early 1960s, when his nation issued a call to
20 arms to serve in Southeast Asia, Captain Condon left behind his
21 family and friends to bring his much-needed expertise and
22 leadership skills to the Vietnam front; on May 22, 1965, this
23 exemplary serviceman had been assigned to serve as an advisor to the
24 2d Battalion, 48th Infantry Regiment of the Army of the Republic of

1 Vietnam, when his unit was ambushed by Viet Cong forces; caught in a
2 devastating firefight, Captain Condon led his unit in a
3 counterattack and, overwhelmed by fierce resistance, directed an
4 air strike into the strongholds of the hostile forces; and

5 WHEREAS, Despite overwhelming odds, Captain Condon
6 courageously placed himself in a strategically indefensible
7 position to draw enemy fire away from the main group of withdrawing
8 friendly troops; he was killed in this battle, giving his own life
9 to save others; a few weeks after his death, the U.S. Military
10 Assistance Command in Vietnam posthumously issued to this
11 courageous soldier the award of the Silver Star, echoing the words
12 of his surviving colleagues in declaring his gallantry in combat to
13 be in keeping with the very highest traditions of the U.S. Army; and

14 WHEREAS, Left to mourn the loss of this 33-year-old officer
15 was his beloved wife, the former Patricia Brown, whom he married in
16 1954, as well as the couple's four wonderful young children,
17 Cheryl, Deborah, Cynthia, and Ralph; although many years have
18 elapsed since that time, he is still remembered as a devoted husband
19 and father, as an outstanding soldier, as a man with a quick, dry
20 wit, and as a Texan of boundless strength, valor, and commitment;
21 now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
23 Legislature hereby pay special tribute to the life of Captain
24 Russell W. Condon and, as we reflect on the accomplishments of this
25 true Texas hero, also extend warmest best wishes to his family: to
26 his wife, Patricia Condon of Round Rock; and to his daughters,
27 Cheryl Ann McVay of Round Rock, Deborah Sue Davidson of Bellevue,

H.R. No. 1406

1 Washington, and Cynthia Lynn Morpew of Austin; and, be it further
2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
4 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Captain
5 Russell W. Condon of Humble.

Chisum

Craddick	Geren	Mercer
Allen	Giddings	Merritt
Alonzo	Goodman	Miller
Bailey	Goolsby	Moreno of Harris
Baxter	Griggs	Moreno of El Paso
Berman	Grusendorf	Morrison
Bohac	Guillen	Mowery
Bonnen	Gutierrez	Naishtat
Branch	Haggerty	Nixon
Brown of Kaufman	Hamilton	Noriega
Brown of Brazos	Hamric	Oliveira
Burnam	Hardcastle	Olivo
Callegari	Harper-Brown	Paxton
Campbell	Hartnett	Pena
Canales	Heflin	Phillips
Capelo	Hegar	Pickett
Casteel	Hilderbran	Pitts
Castro	Hill	Puente
Chavez	Hochberg	Quintanilla
Chisum	Hodge	Raymond
Christian	Homer	Reyna
Coleman	Hope	Riddle
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Ritter
Cook of Colorado	Howard	Rodriguez
Corte	Hughes	Rose
Crabb	Hunter	Seaman
Crownover	Hupp	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Harris	Isett	Smith of Harris
Davis of Dallas	Jones of Lubbock	Smithee
Dawson	Jones of Bexar	Solis
Delisi	Jones of Dallas	Solomons
Denny	Keel	Stick
Deshotel	Keffer of Dallas	Swinford
Driver	Keffer of Eastland	Talton
Dukes	King	Taylor
Dunnam	Kolkhorst	Telford
Dutton	Krusee	Thompson
Edwards	Kuempel	Truitt
Eiland	Laney	Turner
Eissler	Laubenberg	Uresti
Elkins	Lewis	Van Arsdale
Ellis	Luna	Villarreal
Escobar	Mabry	West
Farabee	Madden	Wilson
Farrar	Marchant	Wise
Flores	Martinez Fischer	Wohlgemuth
Flynn	McCall	Wolens
Gallego	McClendon	Wong
Garza	McReynolds	Woolley
Gattis	Menendez	Zedler

H.R. No. 1406

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1406 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 22, 2003.

Chief Clerk of the House