

By: Cook of Colorado

H.R. No. 362

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The community of Schulenburg lost a respected
2 physician and a beloved friend with the passing of Dr. August
3 J. A. Watzlavick on May 17, 2005, at the age of 91; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Yoakum on January 18, 1914, to Raymond Jacob
5 and Sophie Kneitz Watzlavick, this outstanding Texan grew up in
6 Schulenburg; following his graduation as salutatorian from
7 Schulenburg High School in 1931, Dr. Watzlavick studied pharmacy at
8 The University of Texas at Austin, and after earning his degree in
9 1934, he went to work with his father at the Schulenberg drugstore;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Deciding to return to school to obtain a medical
12 degree, Dr. Watzlavick later enrolled at The University of Texas
13 Medical Branch in Galveston and, in 1946, graduated as an M.D.;
14 after completing his residency at Santa Rosa Hospital, where he was
15 recognized as an exceptional surgeon and appointed chief resident,
16 he returned to Schulenburg in 1950 and established a private
17 practice, which he maintained until his retirement in 2004; for
18 more than 50 years, he served as the family doctor for generations
19 of Schulenburg residents, and his skill and dedication to his
20 practice and his availability to those in need, regardless of their
21 ability to pay, earned him the lasting respect and admiration of his
22 many patients; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Watzlavick further distinguished himself
24 through his involvement with a host of community organizations,

1 including the American Legion, the Boy Scouts of America, which
2 honored him with a Silver Beaver Award, the Schulenburg Rotary
3 Club, for which he was a charter member, and the city council and
4 Bishop Forest School Board, both of which he served for many years;
5 in 1985, he was named Outstanding Senior Citizen; his professional
6 affiliations included the Texas Medical Association, American
7 Medical Association, Colorado-Fayette Counties Medical Society,
8 Inter-County Clinical Society, and the National Catholic
9 Physicians Guild; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Watzlavick was a devout and lifelong Catholic
11 and supported his religious community as a member of the Knights of
12 Columbus and the National Catholic Educational Association and as a
13 75-year member of the KJT, the Catholic Union of Texas, which he
14 served as state medical examiner; in addition, he was named a Knight
15 of Saint Gregory the Great in 1973, and in 1990, he was promoted to
16 the rank of Knight of Grand Cross of Saint Gregory by Pope John Paul
17 II; and

18 WHEREAS, While working at the family pharmacy in 1940,
19 Dr. Watzlavick met Leona Mazoch, a nursing student, whom he married
20 three years later, on October 26, 1943; the couple enjoyed a long
21 and happy marriage that was blessed with two children, Thomas and
22 Nancy, and that lasted for 55 years, until Mrs. Watzlavick's
23 passing in 1998; and

24 WHEREAS, Those fortunate enough to have known Dr. Watzlavick
25 will remember his commitment to his family, his faith, and his
26 community, and although his death brings great sorrow to his loved
27 ones, his life stands as an inspiring example of the good that one

1 person can accomplish; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
3 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
4 Dr. August Watzlavick and extend deepest sympathy to the members of
5 his family: to his daughter, Nancy Duncan, and her husband, Art; to
6 his sister, Mary Boer; to his brother, Joseph Watzlavick; to his
7 grandsons, Paul Watzlavick and his wife, Dawn, Robert Watzlavick
8 and his wife, Melissa, and Jim Duncan; to his great-grandchildren,
9 Andrew, Spencer, and Sarah Watzlavick; and to the many other
10 relatives and friends of this esteemed man; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
13 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. August
14 J. A. Watzlavick.