

By: Hughes

H.R. No. 79

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The year 2005 marks the 40th anniversary of the
2 death of U.S. Air Force Colonel James Lewis, a courageous Texan who
3 was killed while serving his country in Vietnam; and

4 WHEREAS, Colonel Lewis was flying a mission out of Bien Hoa
5 Air Base in South Vietnam in April 1965 when the Canberra B-57 he
6 piloted was shot down over Laos; for many years his status was
7 listed as missing in action; in 1997, the remains of his plane were
8 uncovered, and in 2005, the identity of this valiant soldier was
9 finally confirmed; and

10 WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to his wife, Barbara, and children,
11 David, Donna, and Diana, Colonel Lewis was widely regarded with
12 fond affection for his cheerful and openhearted nature; in addition
13 to pursuing an air force career, he also loved to play the trombone
14 and was earning a degree in music at North Texas State University,
15 where he established an ROTC program; and

16 WHEREAS, Americans owe an immeasurable debt to their military
17 personnel, whose brave and steadfast efforts have long secured this
18 nation's treasured freedom; through his unfaltering dedication to
19 duty, honor, and his country, Colonel James Lewis embodied the
20 highest ideals of the United States armed forces, and the State of
21 Texas and the nation mourn the loss of a hero who made the ultimate
22 sacrifice in his country's behalf and whose life was a blessing to
23 all who were privileged to share his love and friendship; now,
24 therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
2 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
3 U.S. Air Force Colonel James Lewis; and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
5 prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas House
6 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of U.S. Air
7 Force Colonel James Lewis.