

By: Smith of Harris

H.R. No. 93

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Memories of a life characterized by devotion to
2 family, leadership in the community, and success in many endeavors
3 may comfort the family and friends of Carole Opryshek of Baytown,
4 who passed away on March 16, 2006, at the age of 68; and

5 WHEREAS, Born on January 2, 1938, in Baytown, Mrs. Opryshek
6 was valedictorian of the Robert E. Lee High School Class of 1957 and
7 went on to attend Lee College; after assuming ownership of her
8 parents' real estate business in 1970, she soon became one of the
9 most successful Realtors in the Baytown area; often called the
10 "Dean of Real Estate," she received the *Baytown Sun's* Readers
11 Choice award for favorite real estate agent four times; and

12 WHEREAS, A committed civic leader, Mrs. Opryshek gave
13 generously of her time and talents in behalf of her beloved
14 hometown; at the time of her passing, she was a director of the
15 Baytown Chamber of Commerce and a member of the city's Long Range
16 Planning Commission; she had also served on the Steering Committee
17 for the city's 2020 Comprehensive Plan Update and the Planning and
18 Zoning Commission; a trusted advisor to a number of the city's
19 mayors over the years, she also served as district coordinator for
20 former U.S. Representative Nick Lampson; moreover, she was named
21 Volunteer of the Year in 1999 by the chamber of commerce and in 2000
22 the *Baytown Sun* named her Citizen of the Year; and

23 WHEREAS, Her dedication to the community extended into many
24 areas of advocacy; a great supporter of education, she served as

1 both a member and president of the Goose Creek School Board in the
2 1960s and 1970s, and she was vice chair of the Friends of Lee
3 College; her contributions to the local YMCA were numerous,
4 including service as a board member and as director of the
5 Partnership of Youth project, which provided scholarships for
6 low-income families to utilize the YMCA; in 1997, she was honored as
7 the Baytown YMCA Volunteer of the Year, and she was made a lifetime
8 member on her retirement from the board; she also served on the
9 board of the local chapter of the American Cancer Society; and

10 WHEREAS, An inspiration to her children, Mrs. Opryshek always
11 made time for her family and especially enjoyed the company of her
12 grandson, Steven; and

13 WHEREAS, Those who were privileged to know Carole Opryshek
14 will long remember her wisdom, warmth, and enthusiasm, and Baytown
15 will forever be a better place to live because of her passionate
16 civic involvement; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
18 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
19 Carole Opryshek and extend sincere sympathy to the members of her
20 family: to her daughter, Karla Opryshek Cernosek; to her son, Karl
21 Opryshek, and his wife, Deborah; to her grandson, Steven Opryshek;
22 to her brother, David Wilks; to her sister, Diane Wilks Gillette,
23 and her husband, John; to her caretakers and close friends, Mary and
24 Charles Colwell; and to her other relatives and many friends; and,
25 be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
27 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of

H.R. No. 93

1 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Carole
2 Opryshek.