

By: Craddick

H.R. No. 95

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The people of Midland and West Texas lost a civic
2 leader of ability and dedication with the passing of John Frank
3 Younger, Sr., on October 1, 2005, at the age of 90; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in McKinney on November 8, 1914, Mr. Younger
5 worked his way through Texas A&M University and graduated with a
6 degree in chemical engineering in 1937; in his first professional
7 job, he worked as a mud engineer for Baroid Sales Division, National
8 Lead Company; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Younger joined the United States Army in 1941 as
10 a chemical warfare officer; he subsequently served for 31 months as
11 the executive officer of the port of Khorramshahr, in what is now
12 Iran, supervising the shipment of wartime supplies to the Soviet
13 Union; by the time he was discharged in 1945, he had earned a Bronze
14 Star and attained the rank of lieutenant colonel; and

15 WHEREAS, Following his return to civilian life, Mr. Younger
16 moved his family to West Texas and joined the Western Company;
17 within six years he had become vice president in charge of wire line
18 services and general manager for research; in 1957, he struck out on
19 his own as an independent oil operator and real estate developer;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, While achieving notable success in the business
22 world, Mr. Younger also worked diligently in behalf of his
23 community; he was a founding director and chairman of High Sky
24 Girls' Ranch, a member of the founding board of the Petroleum Basin

1 Museum, Library, and Hall of Fame, a two-term trustee for the
2 Midland Independent School District, a president of the Midland
3 Chamber of Commerce, a vice chairman of the Community Chest, and a
4 member of the Exchange Club; in addition, he was a board chairman
5 and longtime fund-raiser for Midland Presbyterian Homes and an
6 active and honorary member of the Abell-Hanger Foundation Board of
7 Trustees; and

8 WHEREAS, An ardent Aggie, he served as a member of the
9 President's Council at Texas A&M and as president of the Former
10 Students Association, which established the Century Club under his
11 leadership; he was also instrumental in the creation of the
12 university's Institute of Nautical Archeology; and

13 WHEREAS, Among the many accolades received by Mr. Younger
14 were the Golden Deeds award from the Exchange Club, the Top Hand
15 award from the Permian Basin Petroleum Association, the Trustee of
16 the Year award from both the Texas and National Associations of
17 Homes for the Aged, and the Distinguished Alumnus award from Texas
18 A&M; moreover, the Younger Center, which specializes in the care of
19 patients with Alzheimer's disease, was named in his honor at Manor
20 Park; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Younger married Charlene Smith on April 10,
22 1939, in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and the couple enjoyed a loving
23 marriage that spanned more than six decades until her passing;
24 together with several other families, they formed Memorial
25 Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, in 1954, and Mr. Younger
26 served the congregation for many years as an elder; and

27 WHEREAS, John Younger leaves an extraordinary legacy in the

1 programs and institutions he helped bring to fruition and in the
2 countless small miracles he worked, often anonymously, for ordinary
3 individuals; his life was rich in purpose, accomplishments, family,
4 and friends, and his memory will be forever cherished by all who
5 shared in the warmth of his friendship and affection; now,
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
8 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay special tribute to the
9 life of John Frank Younger, Sr., and extend sincere sympathy to the
10 members of his family: to his sons and daughters-in-law, John F.
11 Younger, Jr., and his wife, Fredericka "Chica," and Charles M.
12 Younger and his wife, Frances; to his grandchildren, Galeana Y.
13 Woodson, Thomas B. Younger, Isabella Allen, Meredith Younger, John
14 S. Younger, and Katherine A. Younger; to his great-grandchildren,
15 Allegra Richards and Gray Woodson; to his siblings, Merrill W.
16 Younger, Cynthia Houchin, and Margaret Bryce; and to his other
17 relatives and friends; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
20 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of John Frank
21 Younger, Sr.