

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 147

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The community of Bandera was deeply saddened by the
2 sudden passing of Claire Johnston on November 19, 2005, and we join
3 her many friends and admirers in mourning their loss; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Dalhart, the former Claire Elizabeth
5 Beecroft grew up in San Marcos and graduated from The University of
6 Texas at Austin with a degree in education and foreign languages;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, She was a military wife before moving to Brownsville
9 with her first husband, Major John Frederick English, who died in
10 1976; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1982 she married Gary Johnston and moved with him
12 to Bandera, and in the years that followed she distinguished
13 herself as one of this Central Texas town's most influential and
14 beloved citizens; she played a key role in the organization of the
15 Bandera Regional Community Foundation and in the designation of the
16 Bandera Library Corporation as a nonprofit entity; and

17 WHEREAS, An avid and talented gardener, Mrs. Johnston also
18 served as treasurer of the Rose Garden Club of Medina, and had
19 previously served as a director of District VII of Texas Garden
20 Clubs, Inc., and in several capacities with the San Antonio Garden
21 Center, of which she was a life member; and

22 WHEREAS, Her gardening expertise and bilingual abilities led
23 her to prominence as an internationally accredited flower show and
24 horticultural design judge, and her taste and judgment were sought

1 after as far away as Mexico and South America; and

2 WHEREAS, In all her travels, her heart never strayed far from
3 her Hill Country home, where she cultivated her friendships with
4 the same care she devoted to her own beloved garden; and

5 WHEREAS, Though she will be greatly missed, Claire Johnston
6 will long be remembered for her kindness, her creativity, and her
7 graciousness by all those who were fortunate enough to have known
8 her; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
10 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
11 Claire Johnston and extend sincere sympathy to the members of her
12 family: to her husband, Gary Johnston; to her brother and
13 sister-in-law, Bertram and Betty Beecroft; to her sister and
14 brother-in-law, Catherine and Everett Johnson; to her niece, Mary
15 Morgan; to her nephews, Thomas L. Beecroft and his wife, Diane,
16 Samuel R. Beecroft and his wife, Melissa, and Everett F. Johnson and
17 his wife, Mindy; to her stepchildren, Jordan M. Johnston, Daria J.
18 Williams and her husband, Jason, and Marcus F. Johnston; and to her
19 other family members and many friends; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Claire
23 Johnston.