

By: Gattis

H.R. No. 239

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The certain knowledge of a life well lived may help
2 to temper the profound sadness felt by the Georgetown community at
3 the passing of Dr. Jo Ann Cravens Ford on February 3, 2006, at the
4 age of 72; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in 1933 in Fort Worth, Dr. Ford studied at Texas
6 State University, and she later earned a master's degree from
7 Colorado State University and a Ph.D. from Texas A&M University;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, In 1968, she began a distinguished 30-year career
10 with the Georgetown Independent School District, holding the
11 position of vocational director at Georgetown High School before
12 going on to serve as principal of four district schools; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Ford won the respect of teachers, students, and
14 parents alike for her devotion to her pupils and to her profession;
15 in 2004, the district dedicated Ford Elementary School in her
16 honor, and more than 500 admirers joined together to show their deep
17 appreciation of her efforts; and

18 WHEREAS, Her commitment to education was rivaled by her
19 determination to make her community a better place; she organized
20 the Family Outreach Center for abused and neglected children and
21 helped to establish the Georgetown Community Clinic, which provides
22 health care to uninsured residents of Williamson County; a founding
23 member of Wellspring United Methodist Church, she was also a
24 driving force behind Mission of Mercy, a regular event offering

1 free dental and health services to hundreds of individuals in need;
2 in recent months, she headed a coalition to create temporary
3 housing for evacuees of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita; and

4 WHEREAS, Despite her many noteworthy achievements, Jo Ann
5 Ford's greatest source of joy and inspiration was undoubtedly her
6 loving and close-knit family, and though they and all who knew her
7 will miss her vivacity, drive, and compassion, her legacy of
8 dedication to her neighbors, friends, and family members will live
9 on in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
11 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
12 Dr. Jo Ann Cravens Ford and extend sincere sympathy to the members
13 of her family: to her son, William Ford and his wife, Deborah; to
14 her grandchildren, Garrett Ford and Meredith Ford; to her sister,
15 Margaret Gerloff and her husband, Don; to her brothers and
16 sisters-in-law, Mickey Cravens, Roy and Charlsey Ford, Laura
17 Oliver, Bennie Oliver, Alma Winett, and May Greenway; and to her
18 other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Jo Ann
22 Cravens Ford.