

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 499

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with joyful times and
2 meaningful accomplishments may comfort the family and many friends
3 of Tommie Gipson North of San Angelo, who passed away on January 28,
4 2006, at the age of 85; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Gorman on March 23, 1920, to T. R. and Martha
6 Wynn, the former Tommie Eloise Wynn attended schools in San Angelo,
7 where she excelled in literature and showed a keen talent for
8 writing; she married the author Fred Gipson in 1940 and, over the
9 course of their 24-year marriage, provided important creative and
10 editorial support on several of his novels, including the classic
11 *Old Yeller*; fortunate enough to find love a second time, she wed Joe
12 North in 1968, and the devoted couple shared many wonderful years
13 together until his passing; and

14 WHEREAS, This graduate of San Angelo State University worked
15 with The University of Texas Press for three years and later
16 distinguished herself as an English and creative writing teacher at
17 San Angelo Central High School; an avid reader, she remained active
18 following her 1986 retirement, participating in book clubs,
19 writing, and studying genealogy; and

20 WHEREAS, Though it is impossible to gauge the full effect of a
21 person's life, some individuals leave their unmistakable mark on
22 the world as they move through it, and Tommie North's contributions
23 to the Texas literary community will long resonate in the lives of
24 those she inspired and in the work she helped nurture; now,

1 therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
3 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
4 Tommie Gipson North and extend deepest sympathy to the members of
5 her family: to her son, Beck Gipson, and his wife, Sue; to her
6 stepsons, Ronnie and Gary North; to her sister, Marjorie Sager; to
7 her brother, Bill Wynn; to her grandson, Ben Gipson; to her
8 step-granddaughters, Kim Shields and her husband, Clint, and Krista
9 Roberts and her husband, Rance; to her great-grandsons, Braden
10 Scott Shields, Reid Lewis Shields, Thomas Mason Roberts, Fisher
11 Riley Roberts, and Gipson Luke Roberts; and to her other relatives
12 and many friends; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
15 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Tommie
16 Gipson North.