

By: Homer

H.C.R. No. 178

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with loving moments and
2 meaningful accomplishments may comfort the family and friends of
3 Mary Lou Williams of Paris, who passed away on November 17, 2003, at
4 the age of 84; and

5 WHEREAS, This notable woman was born in Harleton on December
6 21, 1918, to Ray Maxie and Corine Baker Newman; she wed Louis B.
7 Williams in 1938 and two years later, the couple moved to Paris,
8 where they raised their two children; and

9 WHEREAS, After receiving an associate's degree from the
10 College of Marshall, Mrs. Williams earned her bachelor's degree
11 from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor and her master's degree
12 from East Texas State University; and

13 WHEREAS, She enjoyed a career as an educator that spanned
14 nearly two decades, teaching English at East Texas State University
15 and at Paris Junior College, where she also served as chair of the
16 English and communication department; and

17 WHEREAS, Throughout her life, Mrs. Williams gave of her time
18 and talents to a host of civic organizations; a former president of
19 the Cosmos Club, the Garden Club of Paris, the Garden Study Club,
20 and the McCuistion Regional Medical Center Auxiliary, she was also
21 a valued member of the Round Table Study Club, the Moderne Music
22 Club, and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, to name but a
23 few; and

24 WHEREAS, In addition, Mrs. Williams was deeply interested in

1 history and volunteered with a host of preservation efforts,
2 including the A. M. and Welma Aikin Archives, the Voyer Museum, and
3 the David Graham Hall Foundation; she was also affiliated with the
4 Texas State Historical Association, the Lamar County Historical
5 Commission, the City of Paris Commission for Preservation of
6 Historical Sites, the Society of American Archivists, and the
7 Genealogical Society of Northeast Texas; and

8 WHEREAS, Those fortunate enough to have known Mary Lou
9 Williams will remember her zest for life and her love of family and
10 community; although she is greatly missed, her legacy lives on in
11 the hearts of her loved ones and in her myriad civic contributions;
12 now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas
14 hereby pay tribute to the life of Mary Lou Williams and extend
15 deepest sympathy to the members of her family: to her son, Louis B.
16 Williams, Jr., and his wife, Nila; to her daughter, Joanne W. Click;
17 to her grandchildren, Dr. Eleanor Click, Mary Elen Williams, and
18 Connelly Williams; to her sisters-in-law, Lois Newman and Cathryn
19 Williams; to her brothers-in-law, Joe R. Williams and Dr. Charles
20 H. Williams; to her nephews and nieces, R. Frank Newman, Fran Newman
21 Scott, Lou Rhea Williams Silvey, Judy Dabbs, and John Wesley,
22 Charles, Cory, Katie Hood, Joe, Bruce, and Cliff Williams; and to
23 her other relatives and friends; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for the members of her family and that when the Texas House
26 of Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory
27 of Mary Lou Williams.