

By: Crownover

H.R. No. 501

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, After nearly four decades of sharing their life with  
2 one another, Troy and Sarah LaGrone both departed this world in  
3 2004, leaving behind a legacy of achievement to be treasured by all  
4 who were privileged to know these esteemed Denton civic leaders;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. LaGrone began their journey together  
7 when they married in 1967; he, a fifth-generation Texan, was born  
8 and raised in Deadwood, graduated from Carthage High School, and  
9 attended Braughon's Business College in Dallas; she, a native of  
10 Wills Point, earned her bachelor's degree from Southern Methodist  
11 University; and

12           WHEREAS, Mr. LaGrone began his extraordinary career with Ben  
13 E. Keith Co. as an entry-level clerk; his determination and skill  
14 enabled him to rise through the ranks, and he eventually became  
15 president of the company; under his leadership, the business became  
16 the largest Anheuser-Busch distributor in the nation before his  
17 retirement in 2000; and

18           WHEREAS, Mrs. LaGrone took an avid interest in and made a  
19 personal commitment to community affairs; she lent her time and  
20 talents to the Denton Benefit League, Arts Guild, and Keep Denton  
21 Beautiful, and she also served on the city's Parks and Recreation  
22 Board; her concern for those less fortunate was evident from her  
23 active involvement on the board of Interfaith Ministries, a Denton  
24 group that provides assistance to families in need; and

1           WHEREAS, Mr. LaGrone expressed his civic spirit through his  
2 participation in the Fort Worth Symphony, the Texas Girls Choir,  
3 the Longhorn Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and North Texas  
4 Public Broadcasting; in addition, he embraced the importance of  
5 higher education, organizing the President's Fellows of the  
6 University of North Texas and chairing the UNT President's Council;  
7 he was also a member of the board of directors of the UNT Foundation  
8 and of the President's Council of Texas Woman's University; and

9           WHEREAS, Together, these respected community leaders  
10 generously affirmed their support for public education by endowing  
11 two grants to teachers at Denton schools; and

12           WHEREAS, Patrons of the Denton Arts and Jazz Festival since  
13 its inception in 1990, they received the Community Arts Recognition  
14 Award from the Greater Denton Arts Council in honor of their  
15 significant contributions to the city's cultural life; and

16           WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. LaGrone also valued their Christian  
17 faith and were faithful members of the First United Methodist  
18 Church in Denton, where they worshiped for more than two decades;  
19 and

20           WHEREAS, Throughout their lives, Troy and Sarah LaGrone were  
21 known for their thoughtful and caring natures, their generous  
22 spirits, and their warm and friendly smiles; remembered with great  
23 affection by countless North Texans, they will live on in the hearts  
24 of the many people whose lives they touched; now, therefore, be it

25           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
26 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Troy and Sarah  
27 LaGrone and extend deepest sympathy to the members of their family:

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1 to their sons, Robert Strawn and James Strawn and his wife, Ava; to  
2 their daughter, Joanna Lea LaGrone-Headrick and her husband, Jason;  
3 to their grandchildren, Allen and Steven Strawn and Tasha and Scott  
4 Orr; to their great-grandson, Ethan Jackson; and to all who mourn  
5 the passing of this cherished couple; and, be it further

6       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
7 prepared for the members of their family and that when the Texas  
8 House of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of  
9 Troy and Sarah LaGrone.