

By: Eiland

H.R. No. 695

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Houston firefighter Captain Grady Burke of Texas
2 City died in the line of duty on February 19, 2005, at the age of 39,
3 and the tragic passing of this heroic individual has deeply
4 saddened the community he served; and

5 WHEREAS, Born on January 31, 1966, to Don and Sue Burke in
6 Houston, Grady Burke grew up attending Sun Valley Church of Christ
7 and graduated from South Houston High School in 1984; he then
8 attended the College of the Mainland Firefighting Academy and,
9 after serving for four years with the Texas City Fire Department,
10 joined the Houston Fire Department, becoming captain in 2003; he
11 was an expert driver who trained other firefighters at the national
12 driving course, and last year he received a unit medal of valor for
13 rescuing a trapped victim from a house fire; and

14 WHEREAS, Throughout his career, this outstanding public
15 servant established a record of meritorious service, loyalty,
16 personal courage, and self-sacrifice consistent with the highest
17 ideals of the firefighting profession; and

18 WHEREAS, A humble, fun-loving family man, Captain Burke loved
19 spending time with his wife, Cindy, whom he met and married in 1992,
20 and their three children; he enjoyed taking the kids to the park and
21 having tickle fights, and he also cherished the time spent with his
22 close friend, Greg Brooks; as longtime pals, Mr. Burke and Mr.
23 Brooks called themselves twin sons of different mothers; they both
24 married women named Cindy, had three children, and served as

1 captains in the Houston Fire Department; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Burke was a devoted Christian and member of the
3 Southeast Church of Christ in Friendswood; he was an integral part
4 of the Children's Ministry, the praise team, and semiannual family
5 campouts, where you could find him encouraging people to have fun;
6 he also led prayers in church assembly and was the featured speaker
7 at this year's Father Daughter Banquet; and

8 WHEREAS, Grady Burke was a passionate defender of life and
9 property, and while he will be greatly missed, the legacy of
10 character, dedication, and bravery he leaves behind will not soon
11 be forgotten; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Captain Grady Burke
14 and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family: to his
15 wife, Cindy; to his daughters, Hannah and Hailey; to his son,
16 Hunter; to his parents, Don and Sue Burke; to his sister, Karen
17 Stubblefield and her husband, Lyndall; to his brother, Paul Burke
18 and his wife, Cheryl; to his close friends, Greg Brooks, Darren
19 Schaffer, and Mark Mayfield; to his nieces and nephews, Kristen and
20 Chase Havens, Kendall and Kinsey Stubblefield, Jesse and Jenna
21 Burke, Philip and Joshua Burke, Sarah and Ryan Taylor, and Stephen
22 and Katherine Davis; and to the other family and many friends of
23 this fine man; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
26 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Captain
27 Grady Burke.