

By: West

H.R. No. 702

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The citizens of Odessa lost a valued friend and
2 respected civic leader with the death of A. R. "Happy" Dyer on
3 February 28, 2005, at the age of 96; and

4 WHEREAS, A native Texan, Happy Dyer was born on May 29, 1908,
5 in Whitewright, and throughout his full and generous life his
6 interest in making a positive difference in the lives of others
7 guided him to leave a lasting mark on his adopted home of Odessa;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Dyer enlisted in the U.S. Army as a young man,
10 serving his country with distinction during World War II; following
11 his military discharge, he returned to Odessa and cofounded
12 Abell-McHargue Lumber Company in nearby Midland, where he held the
13 position of manager until 1957; and

14 WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman went on to enjoy a notable
15 tenure with Odessa Savings and Loan that spanned three decades,
16 retiring as its chairman in 1987; and

17 WHEREAS, Over the years, Mr. Dyer lent his time and talents to
18 a host of worthy organizations, including the Permian Basin Oil
19 Show, the Odessa College Board, the Medical Center Development
20 Corporation, the Odessa Boy's and Girl's Club, the YMCA, the Mental
21 Health/Mental Retardation Center, and the Downtown Lions Club;
22 furthermore, he was a lifetime member of the Odessa Chuck Wagon Gang
23 and the Odessa Chamber of Commerce; and

24 WHEREAS, The Ector County School Board, the Coliseum Building

1 Committee, the Savings and Loan Association, and the Lumberman's
2 Association of Texas also benefited from his expertise and
3 leadership; and

4 WHEREAS, The civic involvement of Mr. Dyer earned him a host
5 of accolades, including recognition as the 1978 Man of the Year and
6 2000 Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the Odessa Chamber of
7 Commerce; a recipient of the Heritage of Odessa Foundation
8 Community Statesman Award for community service, he was also
9 awarded an honorary degree in business administration from Texas
10 Tech University; and

11 WHEREAS, Above all else, Mr. Dyer was devoted to his
12 close-knit family, and his life was greatly enriched by the loving
13 marriage he shared for 56 years with his wife, Una, who preceded him
14 in death; and

15 WHEREAS, Those fortunate enough to have known Happy Dyer will
16 long remember him for the vision, enthusiasm, and integrity he
17 brought to each new task he took on; although he will be greatly
18 missed, his legacy will live on through the countless contributions
19 he leaves behind; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
21 Legislature hereby honor the memory of A. R. "Happy" Dyer and extend
22 deepest sympathy to the members of his family: to his son, Mike
23 Dyer; to his daughter-in-law, Penny Dyer; to his grandchildren,
24 Jill and Evan Dyer; and to all those who mourn the passing of this
25 fine man; and, be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
27 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of

H.R. No. 702

- 1 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of A. R.
- 2 "Happy" Dyer.