

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 981

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 friends of
3 Richard Alan Reeder, Lieutenant Colonel U.S. Air Force (Ret.), who
4 passed away on February 22, 2005, at the age of 63; and

5 WHEREAS, Born on February 1, 1942, in New Brighton,
6 Pennsylvania, Mr. Reeder graduated from Beaver Falls High School
7 and Dickinson College before entering the U.S. Air Force in 1964; he
8 served tours of duty at air force bases in Abilene, Dayton, Vietnam,
9 and Germany, and also at SAC Headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska,
10 Design Center in Montgomery, Alabama, the Pentagon, and USAFE
11 Headquarters in Ramstein, Germany; he retired from the air force in
12 1991 with numerous military awards, including the Bronze Star with
13 Oak Leaf Clusters and the Meritorious Service Medal with four
14 devices; and

15 WHEREAS, While Mr. Reeder traveled the globe as a military
16 officer, he nurtured his love of learning by continuing his
17 education and earning multiple degrees in liberal arts, history,
18 economics, art history, management, business, logistic management,
19 German history and language, and at the time of his death, he was
20 completing a program in American history; following his retirement,
21 he and his beloved wife, Margo, settled in Ballinger, where he was
22 employed as a high school teacher for 10 years; honored by the
23 student council as its Teacher of the Year during his tenure, he was
24 also selected for inclusion in *Who's Who Among American Teachers*;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, This accomplished gentleman was a member of
3 countless boards and committees in the communities where he lived,
4 volunteering for the Boy Scouts, church organizations and choirs,
5 bluegrass music foundations, youth soccer, museums, opera
6 foundations, and other cultural groups; for his tireless service,
7 he was named Citizen of the Year by the Junior Chamber of Commerce;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, A devoted Christian and member of St. Mark's
10 Episcopal Church in Coleman, Mr. Reeder was also an avid sports fan
11 and thoughtful scholar; he loved art, music, food, traveling, and
12 dancing, and he believed two events should be cherished and never
13 missed: high school graduations and weddings; and

14 WHEREAS, Dick Reeder was a devoted family man who was known
15 for his integrity and humility, and he will be deeply missed by all
16 those who were privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
18 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Richard Alan Reeder,
19 Lieutenant Colonel U.S. Air Force (Ret.), and extend deepest
20 sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife, Margo Brunson
21 Reeder; to his mother, Aletha Helble Reeder; to his sons, Richard
22 Anthony Reeder and his wife, Lori, and Thomas Zachary Reeder and his
23 wife, Darla; to his grandchildren, Jacob, James, Jonah, Aubrey,
24 Noah, and Taylor; to his sister-in-law, Shari Buchannan and her
25 husband, Phillip; to his brothers-in-law, Bill Damaska, Kirk
26 Brunson and his wife, Barbara, Jerry Brunson and his wife, Diane,
27 Glenn Brunson and his wife, Jolene, Stephen Brunson and his wife,

H.R. No. 981

1 Joann, and Tom Brunson and his wife, Tina; to his dear friends, Mike
2 and Ginny Todd, Daniel Nukala, and Johnny and Jeannine Duckworth;
3 and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
5 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
6 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Richard
7 Alan Reeder.