

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 892

In Memory
of
Edgar Collins

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Kingsbury in mourning the loss of Edgar Collins, who died February 27, 2005, at the age of 104; and

WHEREAS, Edgar Collins was born August 7, 1900, near Kingsbury to Tom and Eliza Collins; he lived a magical life, traveling the world, serving his country as a Buffalo Soldier, detonating land mines during World War II, working on a whale boat, and acting in movies; he made a good living playing stud poker, sparred with a notorious boxer, retired after a 15-year career with General Motors, and lived the last years of his life about 100 yards from the place he was born; and

WHEREAS, Edgar was the middle child in a family with seven boys and two girls; from an early age he helped with family finances by killing and skinning small game and selling the hides for as much as 25 cents apiece; he attended the all-black Plantation School, where one male teacher taught all classes from grade one through high school; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 12, he left home and went to the Southwest to earn a living on produce farms and as a cowboy on ranches; in 1922 while in Kansas, he joined the Army; after basic training at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, he was sent to the Philippine Islands during a native insurgency and then to Fort Huachuca, Arizona, to protect the Mexican border from bandits; from there, his troop rode their horses back to Fort Leavenworth; and

WHEREAS, Edgar later served in the Army during World War II and was sent to North Africa, where his primary duty was detonating land mines; he then went on to fight in Italy; and

WHEREAS, After his military service, he worked for General Motors in Pontiac, Michigan; during the 1960s, he rode a bus back to Kingsbury for a visit, and there he stayed, maintaining his family's property and the family cemetery; at the age of 103, Edgar was still driving his pickup every day, cooking his meals on a woodstove, and keeping up the grounds of the cemetery; and

WHEREAS, A remarkable man who lived his life his way, Edgar Collins was known also as a loyal and kind neighbor and a good friend, and he was truly a treasure to the people of Guadalupe County and our state; now, therefore, be it

S.R. No. 892

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas,
79th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the life of Edgar Collins
and extend sincere condolences to his brother, Lester Collins;
and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for
his family and friends as an expression of deepest sympathy from
the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it
do so in memory of Edgar Collins.

Wentworth

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on May 16, 2005, by a
rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate