

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A long and eventful life filled with heroism, humor,
2 and an abiding religious faith came to a close with the passing of
3 Ralph Mack Wheat of New Braunfels on September 15, 2006, at the age
4 of 86; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Lufkin on December 22, 1919, Ralph Wheat was
6 a member of the remarkable generation of Americans who weathered
7 the Great Depression and secured the country's victory in World War
8 II, and he possessed the integrity and resolve that marked the best
9 men and women of his time; after coming of age in East Texas during
10 the hard times of the 1930s, he entered the U.S. Army in 1940 and was
11 selected for officer candidate school; he was commissioned as a
12 second lieutenant in 1941, the same year that the United States
13 entered the war, and volunteered for infantry duty; and

14 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Wheat went ashore in Normandy just two
15 days after the initial Allied invasion on D-Day and fought in
16 numerous battles in Europe as part of the "Timberwolf Division" of
17 the 104th Infantry; promoted to company commander, this courageous
18 leader contributed to the American advance toward Germany in 1944,
19 but on a fateful day in Holland, he was seriously wounded and was
20 sent back to the U.S. to recover; and

21 WHEREAS, In a hospital in St. Louis, this valiant soldier met
22 Alma Callahan, a nurse from Iowa; romance took its course, and they
23 were married on April 1, 1945, beginning a union that endured for
24 more than 61 years; and

1 WHEREAS, This loving couple watched their family grow as the
2 years passed, and Mr. Wheat took great pleasure in the time he spent
3 with his wife and children and with members of his extended family;
4 whether at reunions at the "old homestead" in Lufkin or on driving
5 vacations that toured the renowned sights of the United States, he
6 regaled his loved ones with humorous and thrilling tales taken from
7 his own experiences, which have become a beloved part of family
8 lore; and

9 WHEREAS, A lifelong Methodist, Mr. Wheat made sure that the
10 church was at the center of family activities; his full and generous
11 life was further enhanced by the more worldly joys of playing bridge
12 and spending time with his close friends; Ralph Wheat took immense
13 joy in living, and his laughter-filled conversations and positive
14 outlook will continue to inspire all who were fortunate enough to
15 have shared in his love and companionship; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
17 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Ralph Mack Wheat and
18 extend deepest condolences to the members of his family: to his
19 wife, Alma Wheat; to his children, Tom Wheat and his wife, Gail
20 Silverstein, Judith Wynn and her husband, John, and John Wheat and
21 his wife, Lisa; to his grandsons, Jay Wheat and his wife, Connie,
22 David Wheat and his wife, Joy, John Stephen Wynn, and Jeff Wynn; to
23 his great-granddaughter, Sophia Wheat; and to his other relatives
24 and friends; and, be it further

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1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
3 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Ralph Mack
4 Wheat.

Chisum

Craddick	Gattis	Miles
Allen	Geren	Miller
Alonzo	Giddings	Moreno
Anchia	Gonzales	Morrison
Anderson	Gonzalez Toureilles	Mowery
Aycock	Goolsby	Murphy
Bailey	Guillen	Naishtat
Berman	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	O'Day
Bolton	Hancock	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hardcastle	Olivo
Branch	Harless	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Otto
Burnam	Heflin	Parker
Callegari	Hernandez	Patrick
Castro	Herrero	Paxton
Chavez	Hilderbran	Pena
Chisum	Hill	Phillips
Christian	Hochberg	Pickett
Cohen	Hodge	Pierson
Coleman	Homer	Pitts
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Puente
Cook of Colorado	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Corte	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Crabb	Hughes	Riddle
Creighton	Isett	Ritter
Crownover	Jackson	Rodriguez
Darby	Jones	Rose
Davis of Harris	Keffer	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Parker	Smith of Harris
Delisi	King of Taylor	Smithee
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Solomons
Driver	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dukes	Krusee	Straus
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Latham	Talton
Eiland	Laubenberg	Taylor
Eissler	Leibowitz	Thompson
Elkins	Lucio III	Truitt
England	Macias	Turner
Escobar	Madden	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Mallory Caraway	Vaught
Farias	Martinez	Veasey
Farrar	Martinez Fischer	Villarreal
Flores	McCall	Vo
Flynn	McClendon	West
Frost	McReynolds	Woolley
Gallego	Menendez	Zedler
Garcia	Merritt	Zerwas

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 155 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on January 30, 2007.

Chief Clerk of the House