

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 435

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A loving family and many friends and colleagues
2 mourn the loss of Lieutenant James Lee Sunderland, Sr., of the Val
3 Verde County Sheriff's Department, who died in the line of duty on
4 June 30, 2006, at the age of 46; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Edinburg on February 2, 1960, James
6 Sunderland graduated from Edinburg High School in 1978; after
7 working as a mechanic for 10 years, he answered the call to serve
8 and protect and entered the Hidalgo County Peace Officers Academy;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, After a year as a temporary deputy, Mr. Sunderland
11 became a permanent deputy in the Val Verde County Sheriff's
12 Department in 1989; at the time of his death, he had been protecting
13 the citizens of the county for 18 years and had attained the rank of
14 lieutenant as well as a master peace officer certificate; and

15 WHEREAS, An inspiration to his colleagues, Lieutenant
16 Sunderland showed compassion and concern to those he came in
17 contact with as a peace officer; his door was always open to the
18 officers under his command, and he treated them as family, with
19 kindness and respect; and

20 WHEREAS, A devoted husband and father and a devout
21 churchgoer, Lieutenant Sunderland enjoyed the simple pleasures of
22 life; he loved working with his hands and spending time with his
23 family; he was proud that his son Jimmy served alongside him in the
24 sheriff's department; and

1 WHEREAS, The untimely death of this brave public servant is a
2 tragic loss, but his family, friends, and community may take
3 comfort in his long and dedicated service to the people of Val Verde
4 County and in his sterling example to his fellow peace officers;
5 now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
7 Legislature hereby honor the life of James Lee Sunderland, Sr., and
8 offer sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his wife
9 of 26 years, Juanell Lynn Sunderland; to his children, James Lee
10 Sunderland, Jr., Jeremy Lynn Sunderland, Jennifer Lynn Sunderland,
11 and Jessica Lorraine Sunderland; to his parents, Carl G. Sunderland
12 and Emma Sunderland; to his brothers, Carl G. Sunderland III and
13 Randall Lee Sunderland; to his sister, Judy Ann Altemeyer; and to
14 his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
17 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of James Lee
18 Sunderland, Sr.