

By: O'Day

H.R. No. 603

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Lance Corporal William Lewis Miller of Pearland, who
2 died during combat duty in Iraq on November 15, 2004, at the age of
3 22, served his country with valor and earned the profound
4 appreciation of every American; and

5 WHEREAS, From the time he was very young, Billy Miller wanted
6 to join the military; he enlisted in the Marines the summer before
7 his senior year at Pearland High School, and in June 2001, three
8 weeks after receiving his diploma, he left for basic training; and

9 WHEREAS, His first overseas tour of duty lasted nearly two
10 years and took him to U.S. Naval Station Rota, Spain, where he was
11 attached to a Fleet Anti-Terrorist Security Team; before he left
12 Rota he had already earned a reputation as a "salt dog," the Marine
13 term of respect for someone who is highly proficient at his job; and

14 WHEREAS, In March 2004, Corporal Miller transferred to Bravo
15 Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division,
16 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force; he deployed in June 2004 to Iraq,
17 where he made the ultimate sacrifice while leading a mission in
18 Fallujah, in Al Anbar province; and

19 WHEREAS, Endowed with an exuberant spirit, an irrepressible
20 smile, and an affectionate, generous heart, Corporal Miller infused
21 the world around him with laughter and joy; he wanted to attend
22 college after returning to civilian life and, characteristically,
23 planned to study psychology or psychiatry so that he could help
24 others; a gifted athlete who played Little League baseball and

1 idolized Nolan Ryan, he also loved fishing and hunting and spending
2 time with his sister's children; and

3 WHEREAS, In the midst of an arduous struggle, Corporal Miller
4 always sought to be point, the man in front, and he carried out his
5 heavy round of duties with unfailing dedication and
6 professionalism; the Marine Corps values of honor, courage, and
7 commitment have had no finer champion, and all who knew and
8 treasured this young Texan will forever remember him with infinite
9 love and gratitude; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Lance Corporal
12 William Lewis Miller and extend sincere sympathy to the members of
13 his family: to his parents, Susie and Lewis Miller; to his sister,
14 Sabrina Blankenship, and her husband, Joe; to his half sister, Lisa
15 Miller Story, and her husband, Ken; to his grandmother, Gloria H.
16 Bailey; and to his many other relatives and friends; and, be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
20 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Lance
21 Corporal William Lewis Miller.