

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family and friends mourn the death of businessman  
2 Walter Sheridan Harpool of Denton, who passed away January 28,  
3 2007, at the age of 84; and

4           WHEREAS, Known affectionately as "Pinky," Walter Harpool was  
5 born on February 14, 1922, in Hebron, to Josephine and R. T.  
6 Harpool, Sr.; the Harpool family have been residents of Denton  
7 County since 1873; in 1939 they founded Harpool Seed, Inc., which  
8 grew to have offices in Houston, Austin, Denton, Dallas, and  
9 Muskogee, Oklahoma; and

10           WHEREAS, Answering his nation's call to duty during World War  
11 II, Mr. Harpool served as a pilot in the United States Army Air  
12 Force; he trained in California and received his wings in Arizona;  
13 he worked as an instructor at Perrin Field in Sherman and trained on  
14 the B-17 in Florida before flying as a pilot at Langley Field for  
15 radar students; and

16           WHEREAS, Returning to Denton, Mr. Harpool continued to work  
17 for the family business; in 1962 he founded a separate firm, Harpool  
18 Fertilizer Company, which was the first independent bulk blending  
19 fertilizer plant in Texas; as an important agribusiness innovator,  
20 he was interested in the latest agricultural techniques and in  
21 formulating new and more productive fertilizers for his clients;  
22 and

23           WHEREAS, Regarded by all who knew him as a man of outstanding  
24 character, Mr. Harpool served his community in many ways; chairman

1 of the Denton County Program Building Committee, he also worked  
2 with many other agricultural committees; he served on the  
3 Agricultural Diversification Board during the administration of  
4 Governor Bill Clements, and he was active with the Denton Youth  
5 Fair, the North Texas State Fair, the United Way, and the Denton  
6 Chamber of Commerce; and

7 WHEREAS, His many contributions to his profession and his  
8 community earned him recognition; he was named Man of the Year in  
9 Texas Agriculture in 1987 by the Texas Agricultural Extension  
10 Service and Conservation Businessman of the Year in 1988 by the  
11 Denton County Soil and Water Conservation District; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1987 Mr. Harpool bought an old railroad caboose  
13 and renovated it for use as his office; it stood on an old rail spur  
14 in Denton, where he enjoyed having friends and customers come to  
15 visit him; in 2006 he donated the caboose to the city of Denton in  
16 honor of an old friend, Mayor Euline Brock; and

17 WHEREAS, Well loved and widely respected, Pinky Harpool was a  
18 straightforward man of outstanding character who gave generously to  
19 his community, and he will be long remembered for his  
20 accomplishments and his honesty and good humor; now, therefore, be  
21 it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
23 Legislature hereby honor the life of Walter Sheridan Harpool and  
24 offer sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his wife,  
25 Rose Marie Royall Harpool; to his son, Walter S. Harpool, Jr.; to  
26 his brother, Tom Harpool, Jr., and his wife, Rebecca; to his niece,  
27 Jerry Watkins, and her husband, Bill; to his sisters-in-law, Opal

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1 Harpool and Oleta McDonald and her husband, Bob; and to his other  
2 relatives and friends; and, be it further

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

Crownover

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 881 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on April 5, 2007.

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Chief Clerk of the House