

By: Solomons

H.R. No. 1056

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The family and friends of U.S. Army Captain Todd
2 Tyler Christmas suffered an immeasurable loss with the death of
3 this valiant soldier on November 29, 2004, at the age of 26; and

4 WHEREAS, Assigned to 1st Battalion, 44th Air Defense
5 Artillery Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, Captain Christmas was
6 killed in the crash of a Blackhawk helicopter in Central Texas; and

7 WHEREAS, A native of New Mexico, Todd Christmas grew up on his
8 family's ranch and as a young man enjoyed hunting, horseback
9 riding, and competing in 4-H; he graduated from the New Mexico
10 Military Institute in 1998, where he ascended to the rank of Cadet
11 Lieutenant Colonel, earning the Commandant's Saber Award and the
12 Joe Govan Memorial Award; after receiving his associate degree, he
13 joined the Texas Army National Guard and studied agricultural
14 economics at Texas A&M University; and

15 WHEREAS, Captain Christmas graduated from the Air Defense
16 Officer Basic Course in 2002 and went on to attend the U.S. Army
17 Airborne School, later serving a tour of duty in Operation Iraqi
18 Freedom; he distinguished himself often during his years of
19 service, earning the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal,
20 and the Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; and

21 WHEREAS, Exemplifying the highest ideals of the U.S. armed
22 forces, Todd Christmas inspired others with his fortitude,
23 tenacity, and courage; although his passing leaves a void in the
24 lives of those who were fortunate to know him, they will forever

1 carry memories of this heroic young man in their hearts; now,
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
4 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Captain Todd Tyler
5 Christmas and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family:
6 to his wife, Erica Laine Christmas; to his parents, Brad and Becky
7 Christmas; to his brothers, Matt and Will Christmas; and to his
8 other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
11 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Captain
12 Todd Tyler Christmas.