

By: McReynolds

H.R. No. 1612

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The residents of the Lone Star State lost a  
2 decorated Vietnam veteran with the passing of Jerry Mareland  
3 Johnson of Zavalla on March 26, 2007, at the age of 58; and

4           WHEREAS, Born to Henry and Dorothy Johnson on April 11, 1948,  
5 in Beaumont, Mr. Johnson graduated from Robert E. Lee High School  
6 in 1966; he attended Sam Houston State University until his  
7 enlistment in the U.S. Army in 1967; called to action in Vietnam, he  
8 served as a surgical assistant in 1968 and 1969 and received the  
9 Purple Heart for being wounded in action; and

10           WHEREAS, In 1974, Jerry Johnson enlisted in the U.S. Navy and  
11 served on the USS *El Paso*; during his tenure as a sailor, he got the  
12 opportunity to demonstrate his athletic abilities as a pitcher for  
13 the Tidewater Tides baseball team; in 1980, Jerry Johnson left the  
14 navy and began working as a designated representative for the  
15 Angelina and Neches River Authority; in 1999, he became the general  
16 manager of the Brookeland Fresh Water Supply District in Jasper  
17 County; and

18           WHEREAS, In addition to his work responsibilities,  
19 Mr. Johnson gave freely of his time and talents to assist his fellow  
20 citizens; after the 9-11 terrorist attacks, he volunteered for 14  
21 days with a search and rescue team; he was also an active member of  
22 the Lufkin-Nacogdoches Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America  
23 and of Rockland Baptist Church; and

24           WHEREAS, An admirable American who bravely served his country

1 in two different branches of the military, Jerry Johnson was held in  
2 the highest regard by all who knew him, and he will be deeply  
3 missed; now, therefore, be it

4         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
5 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Jerry Mareland  
6 Johnson and offer sincere condolences to the members of his family:  
7 to his wife, Johnnie Johnson; to his daughter, Krystal Hampton and  
8 her husband, Ian; to his granddaughters, Skye and Autumn Hampton;  
9 to his brothers, Kyle and Hank Johnson; to his brother-in-law, Doug  
10 Weaver; to his brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Dwight and  
11 Kathleen Walker; to his sisters-in-law, Brenda Helton and Debbie  
12 Brookshire and her fiancée, Ken Stephens; to his nine nieces and  
13 nephews; and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it  
14 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 Jerry  
18 Johnson.