

By: Laubenberg

H.R. No. 1922

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Words cannot adequately express the sorrow felt at
2 the loss of U.S. Army First Lieutenant Gwilym Josef Newman, who died
3 in Iraq on April 12, 2007, at the age of 24; and

4 WHEREAS, Based at Fort Hood, Lieutenant Newman was attached
5 to the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat
6 Team, 1st Cavalry Division; he deployed to Iraq with Demon Company
7 in October 2006 and led a platoon that was tasked with apprehending
8 insurgents in Tarmiya who were setting up roadside bombs under
9 cover of darkness; Lieutenant Newman was mortally wounded while on
10 dismounted patrol; and

11 WHEREAS, This valiant soldier was born in Thousand Oaks,
12 California, on April 27, 1982; he spent part of his childhood in
13 Barnegat, New Jersey, and completed high school in Waldorf,
14 Maryland, graduating a year ahead of his class; in December 2003, he
15 earned a degree from Frostburg State University, where he majored
16 in psychology and minored in biology; and

17 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Newman enlisted in the army in June 2004
18 and received his commission in January 2005; the son of a nurse and
19 an army research physicist, he had his sights set on attending
20 medical school; and

21 WHEREAS, Gwilym Newman met his future wife, Samantha Rose, in
22 1999, and the couple married in 2004; their son, Gwilym Alexander,
23 was born the following year, on his father's birthday; and

24 WHEREAS, An independent thinker who enjoyed learning and who

1 possessed a wide range of knowledge, Lieutenant Newman is also
2 remembered with great affection for his exuberant spirit, his keen
3 sense of humor, and his ability to brighten everyone's day; he cared
4 deeply for his family and cherished the holidays because they were
5 joyous family occasions; and

6 WHEREAS, The military awards conferred on Gwilym Newman
7 include the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart; and

8 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Newman performed his difficult mission
9 with exemplary dedication and professionalism; his unfaltering
10 devotion to honor, to the soldiers in his platoon, and to this
11 country reflected the highest ideals of the United States armed
12 forces, and his fellow citizens owe him a debt of gratitude that the
13 passage of time can never diminish; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
15 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of First Lieutenant
16 Gwilym Josef Newman and extend sincere sympathy to the members of
17 his family: to his wife, Samantha L. Newman; to his son, Gwilym
18 Alexander Newman; to his mother, Christine A. Newman; to his sister
19 and brother, Brittany Marie and Patrick Donald Newman; to his
20 grandmother, Sheila Harrison; to his grandfather, Joseph Newman,
21 and his wife, Patricia; and to his other relatives and many friends;
22 and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
25 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of First
26 Lieutenant Gwilym Josef Newman.