

By: Gattis

H.R. No. 1977

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The certain knowledge of a life well-lived may
2 temper the sadness brought by the passing of William Grogan Lord of
3 Georgetown on January 13, 2007; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Lord was born in Hearne; after graduating from
5 Downey High School, he worked with Firestone Tire and Rubber
6 Company in San Antonio before moving to Georgetown in 1940 to
7 supervise the firm's sales in Central Texas; and

8 WHEREAS, His career was interrupted by the outbreak of World
9 War II, when he served his country as an artillery observation
10 pilot, earning a battlefield commission to the rank of first
11 lieutenant and both the Air Medal with clusters and the Purple Heart
12 for his heroism; and

13 WHEREAS, He returned to civilian life in 1945 and expanded
14 his business interests to include automobile financing, insurance,
15 banking, and a savings and loan association; he also founded a small
16 business investment company, Texas Capital Corporation, which
17 later became TeleCom Corporation; and

18 WHEREAS, Among his many notable ventures, Mr. Lord served as
19 senior chairman of the board of First Texas Bancorp, Inc., a
20 multibank holding company, advisory director of the Citizens State
21 Bank of Georgetown, a director of State Trust Company of
22 Georgetown, and a director of Georgetown Savings and Loan
23 Association; in addition, he led a number of Dallas-based
24 companies, serving as chairman of the board of Red Ball Motor

1 Freight, a director of Mercantile Texas Corporation, and a director
2 of Frozen Food Express Industries, Inc.; and

3 WHEREAS, This respected civic leader shared his wisdom and
4 expertise with the Texas Research League and the Texas
5 Philosophical Society; he became a member of the State Securities
6 Board of Texas in 1971 and served for more than a decade; elected
7 chair in 1975, he held the record of longest-serving member in the
8 body's history on his retirement eight years later; and

9 WHEREAS, Through the years Mr. Lord was a dedicated supporter
10 of Southwestern University; he served with the institution's board
11 of trustees for 40 years and, with his wife, funded a complex of
12 townhouses for students, and in 1967, Southwestern recognized him
13 with an honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters; and

14 WHEREAS, Those fortunate enough to have known William Lord
15 will long remember him not only as one of Georgetown's most
16 influential businessmen and philanthropists but also as a true
17 Texas gentleman; although he is greatly missed, his legacy lives on
18 in the immeasurable impact of his many contributions to the city of
19 Georgetown and this state; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
21 Legislature hereby pay special tribute to the life of William
22 Grogan Lord and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his
23 family: to his wife, Betty; to his son, Roger and his wife, Kathy;
24 to his daughter, Sharon; to his grandchildren, Hunter, Shelley and
25 her husband, Todd, Summer, and Joseph; to his great-grandchildren,
26 Rylee and Brooke; and to his other relatives and many friends; and,
27 be it further

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1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
3 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of William
4 Grogan Lord.