

By: Anderson

H.R. No. 2812

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of World War II veteran and volunteer
2 bugler Hugh Bob Fuller, Sr., of Waco on January 30, 2007, at the age
3 of 82, will long be mourned by his family, friends, and fellow
4 veterans; and

5 WHEREAS, Born October 17, 1924, in Rogers to Omar Frank and
6 Nell Fuller, Hugh Bob Fuller got his first horn, a three dollar
7 cornet, from his father in 1937; following his graduation from Waco
8 High School, the 17-year-old ROTC student attended Tarleton College
9 in Stephenville and played "Taps" for the first time at a memorial
10 service held on campus after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Answering his nation's call to duty, Mr. Fuller
13 served from 1942 to 1946 with the 69th Infantry Division of the
14 United States Army in the European theater, where he was wounded in
15 the Battle of the Bulge and witnessed the liberation of Buchenwald
16 concentration camp; and

17 WHEREAS, Returning to Waco, he attended Baylor University and
18 played in the school band; when his father fell ill, he quit college
19 and abandoned his goal of becoming a band director to take over the
20 family business, Fuller Auto Parts; while running the operation, he
21 continued to play in an 11-piece dance band called Reminiscence,
22 which performed favorite tunes from the big band era at dances,
23 weddings, and the Shriners Christmas Ball; and

24 WHEREAS, After selling the business and retiring, Mr. Fuller

1 gave generously of his time and resources to play "Taps" at
2 veterans' funerals; Mr. Fuller objected to the practice of playing
3 a CD recording of "Taps" when a live bugler wasn't available, and so
4 he offered his services as a bugler to as many as 300 services a year
5 all over Texas; and

6 WHEREAS, He sometimes performed "Taps" in formation with
7 other members of VFW Post No. 4819, in all seasons and all weather,
8 and in recent years often found himself playing tearfully at the
9 funerals of longtime friends; he practiced his bugle every day,
10 often with the accompaniment of his terrier, Bo; each night before
11 bed he played his favorite song, Hoagy Carmichael's "Stardust," the
12 first song he ever learned on the trumpet; and

13 WHEREAS, Refusing to accept payment for his patriotic
14 tributes, Mr. Fuller performed an invaluable service for Texas
15 veterans, which earned him the heartfelt gratitude of grieving
16 family members and his fellow veterans; his dedication was
17 chronicled in newspaper articles, in *Southern Living* magazine, and
18 by the television program *Texas Country Reporter*; in keeping with
19 his unselfish devotion to remembering the fallen, "Taps" was
20 performed at Mr. Fuller's own funeral by his friend, Korean War
21 veteran William C. Hall; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
23 Legislature hereby honor the life of Hugh Bob Fuller, Sr., and offer
24 sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his daughter,
25 Mary Nell Dowd and her husband, Don; to his son, Hugh Bob Fuller,
26 Jr., and his wife, Terryca; to his sisters, Joan Hudson and her
27 husband, Gay, and Oma Nell Nemmer and her husband, Richard; to his

1 grandchildren, Hugh Bob Fuller III and his wife, Melissa, Justin
2 Millar Fuller, and Kacy Tillman and her husband, Andrew; to his
3 special friend, Joanna Fuller; and to his other relatives and
4 friends; and, be it further

5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
6 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
7 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Hugh Bob
8 Fuller, Sr.