

By: Homer

H.C.R. No. 43

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of Hoyle R.
2 Barr of Paris, Texas, who died on January 2, 2009, at the age of 91;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Born to C. Hoyle and Faith O. Barr on December 7,
5 1917, Hoyle Barr was a native of Paris and a member of a family with
6 a long history in the city; and

7 WHEREAS, Answering his nation's call to duty, Mr. Barr
8 enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1940, beginning a
9 distinguished career as a military aviator that lasted 22 years;
10 during World War II, he fought at Midway, Guadalcanal, Luzon, and
11 Mindanao; he also fought in the Korean War and the Vietnam War and
12 served at the Pentagon; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Barr was a versatile pilot, flying dive-bombers,
14 jets, and helicopters over the course of his service; he earned 2
15 Distinguished Flying Crosses, a Bronze Star, and 12 Air Medals; a
16 photograph of then Lieutenant Hoyle Barr, taken at Midway, appeared
17 in *Life* magazine, and for many years the picture was also displayed
18 at Barr's Coffee Shop in Paris; and

19 WHEREAS, After his retirement from the Marine Corps in 1962,
20 Mr. Barr went to work for LTV as an engineer specialist, but he soon
21 returned to school to pursue his dream of becoming a writer; he
22 earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from The University of
23 Texas at Arlington and did graduate work at Texas Christian
24 University and East Texas State University; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Barr was a gifted writer and storyteller with a
2 jaunty style and a mischievous sense of humor; he published two
3 popular volumes of poetry and anecdotes about his childhood in
4 Paris and his wartime experiences; in 2008, he gave an extensive
5 interview about his military service to representatives of the
6 Library of Congress; and

7 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan also turned his creative
8 energies to the craft of jewelry making; he taught the subject at
9 VOTEC, and after returning to Paris in 1973, he became the director
10 of the jewelry school at Paris Junior College, where he worked until
11 retiring again in 1987; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Barr was a valued member of the congregation and
13 a lay reader at Holy Cross Episcopal Church in Paris; for his
14 exceptional achievements and service to Paris Junior College, he
15 was inducted into the PJC Hall of Fame; and

16 WHEREAS, A loving husband and a devoted father, Hoyle Barr
17 earned the respect and affection of countless people over the
18 course of his long life, and although he is no longer with us, his
19 warmth and high spirits will live forever in his writings and in the
20 hearts of those who knew and loved him; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
22 hereby pay tribute to the life of Hoyle R. Barr and extend sincere
23 condolences to the members of his family: to his wife of 65 years,
24 Maidie Sackett Barr; to his daughters, Bette Barr, Anne Drake, and
25 Kathleen Bryant; to his grandson, Cory; to his granddaughters,
26 Julia and Natalie; to his two great-grandchildren; and to his other
27 relatives and friends; and, 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 and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of
4 Hoyle R. Barr.