

By: Homer

H.C.R. No. 230

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the  
2 passing of Arlene Wilson Russell of Mount Pleasant on October 29,  
3 2008, at the age of 98; and

4 WHEREAS, The former Arlene Wilson was born in Granger on  
5 October 20, 1910, to Charles Alexander Wilson and Bonnie Constance  
6 Booker Wilson, and she was later joined by eight siblings; when she  
7 was in the 10th grade, her family relocated to Kenedy, and she went  
8 to live with her grandmother in Austin, where she could finish high  
9 school and continue taking shorthand, typing, and other business  
10 courses; she graduated among the top three in her class and began  
11 working as a secretary at an automobile agency; and

12 WHEREAS, In January 1929, Mrs. Russell joined the staff of  
13 the Texas House of Representatives as a stenographer, and having  
14 enjoyed this experience tremendously, she returned for three  
15 additional regular sessions and several called sessions over the  
16 next six years; during each interim, she would seek temporary  
17 employment and anxiously wait for the following session to convene;  
18 in 1933, she served as the assistant to the chief clerk of the Texas  
19 House, and she delighted in sharing a desk in front of the speaker's  
20 rostrum, spending more time on the house floor, and becoming  
21 acquainted with the members--including a handsome new  
22 representative from Titus County named Traylor Russell; and

23 WHEREAS, After working alongside one another in Austin and  
24 developing a relationship, Mr. and Mrs. Russell were married on

1 April 5, 1935, and they stayed at the Driskill Hotel through the end  
2 of that year's legislative session, at which point they settled in  
3 Mount Pleasant; while her husband built a law practice, Mrs.  
4 Russell worked as the assistant to the county clerk, and by 1941,  
5 she was focused on raising a family; the couple were blessed with a  
6 son, Bob, and twins, Sam and Rebecca; Mr. Russell went on to become  
7 district attorney, and Mrs. Russell was active in her community as a  
8 member of the Southside Church of Christ and the Junior Kroweldeen  
9 Club; and

10 WHEREAS, Arlene Russell enhanced the lives of all those who  
11 were fortunate enough to share in her love and friendship, and she  
12 will long be remembered with great admiration and affection; now,  
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas  
15 hereby pay tribute to the life of Arlene Wilson Russell and extend  
16 sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her sons, Robert  
17 Traylor Russell and Sam Russell and his wife, Janet; to her  
18 daughter, Rebecca Quebe and her husband, George; to her  
19 grandchildren, Clay Russell and Monica and Jeff Welborn; to her  
20 great-grandchildren, Tyler and Jack Welborn; to her sister, Carolyn  
21 Singleton and her husband, Hugh; and to her other relatives and  
22 friends; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
24 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
25 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of  
26 Arlene Wilson Russell.

