

By: Homer

H.C.R. No. 266

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 continue
9 taking shorthand, typing, and other business courses; she completed
10 her senior year at Kenedy High School, graduating among the top
11 three in her class, and she began working as a secretary at an
12 automobile agency; and

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

24 WHEREAS, After working alongside one another in Austin and

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

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

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

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