

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 37

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family, friends, and fellow veterans will forever  
2 treasure their memories of retired Brigadier General William  
3 Corinth Bacon of Comfort, who died on March 8, 2008, at the age of  
4 88; and

5           WHEREAS, The son of Dr. W. T. Bacon and Sally Maxie Bacon,  
6 William Bacon gave up opportunities to play professional baseball  
7 and to attend West Point in order to join the United States Army  
8 Flying Cadet Program in September 1940; after training as a pilot at  
9 Kelly Field in Texas and receiving his commission as a second  
10 lieutenant, he was assigned to the 15th Observation Squadron at  
11 Fort Sill, Oklahoma; in 1942, he joined the 344th Squadron of the  
12 98th Bomb Group and began training for combat in World War II; and

13           WHEREAS, This brave officer saw action in the Middle East and  
14 Europe, flying 40 combat missions as a bomber pilot and earning  
15 acclaim for his skill and tenacity in the cockpit; on one mission,  
16 he lost the hydraulic systems and rudder control on his aircraft but  
17 kept his plane aloft and shot down an enemy fighter on his way back  
18 to base, where he landed safely with no loss of life to his crew; and

19           WHEREAS, Following the war, General Bacon attended the Air  
20 War College in 1947 and then became commander of the 6th Bombardment  
21 Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base; he subsequently served as  
22 chief of the plans and programs branch for the director of plans and  
23 operations at Air Force headquarters; throughout the 1950s, he held  
24 a number of positions in Asia and the United States and returned to

1 Davis-Monthan AFB in 1958 as commander of the 303rd Bombardment  
2 Wing; in the 1960s, he was the commander of the 12th and the 22nd  
3 Strategic Aerospace Divisions; and

4 WHEREAS, During the course of his military career, General  
5 Bacon's gallantry under fire and his dedication to duty earned him  
6 an impressive list of commendations, including the Silver Star, the  
7 Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf  
8 cluster, the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army  
9 Commendation Medal, and the Air Force Commendation Medal; and

10 WHEREAS, After his retirement from military service, General  
11 Bacon raised cattle for 30 years on his Arrow-B Ranch in Welfare; he  
12 became a licensed veterinarian and an expert horseman as well as a  
13 welcome and generous neighbor to many in the Hill Country; and

14 WHEREAS, In the 1990s, General Bacon founded the Hill Country  
15 Veterans Council in order to keep the Kerrville Veterans  
16 Administration Hospital from being closed, and he served as the  
17 organization's president for three years; the council worked  
18 tirelessly to achieve their goal and ultimately were successful in  
19 keeping the facility open; and

20 WHEREAS, General Bill Bacon was both a tough military  
21 commander and a warmhearted friend, known for his acts of kindness  
22 and his salty sense of humor; his dedication to his country, his  
23 community, and to those who served in the U.S. armed forces commands  
24 deep respect, and the admirable example of his life will long be  
25 remembered; now, therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
27 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Brigadier General

1 William Corinth Bacon and offer sincere condolences to the members  
2 of his family: to his wife, Helen Bacon; to his daughters, Kay  
3 Aubrey and Kari Bowers; to his sons, William S. Bacon and David G.  
4 Bacon; to his grandchildren, Renee Pifer Farris, Margret Bacon  
5 Hunter, William Bacon, Clint Bowers, and Lindsey Bowers Williams;  
6 to his great-grandchildren, Lexis Pifer Farris, Abigail Bacon, Beau  
7 Bacon, Shelby Lipe, Rachel Hunter, and Rylee Nicole Williams; and  
8 to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

9         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
10 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
11 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of William  
12 Corinth Bacon.