

By: Naishtat

H.R. No. 153

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of John
2 Edward Davis, Jr., of Austin, who died on December 28, 2008, at the
3 age of 57; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Abilene to John and Dolores Davis on
5 December 20, 1951, Johnny Davis grew up in Midland, where he played
6 football for Midland High School; he later earned a degree from The
7 University of Texas at Austin and began his career in publishing
8 with the Prentice Hall Company; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis went on to make a name for himself as the
10 talented, self-taught cartographer of a series of maps illustrating
11 the history of Texas; his "1836 Republic of Texas" and "1845 State
12 of Texas" maps displayed his deep knowledge of the state's history,
13 using muted earth tones and a flourished script to detail battle
14 sites and early settlements; the maps often featured the yellow
15 rose of Texas as a compass; and

16 WHEREAS, Hugely popular among Texans in all walks of life,
17 the maps have been displayed in the offices of governors, state
18 legislators, and football coach Darrell K. Royal, as well as in bank
19 lobbies and on the set of the popular television show *Walker, Texas*
20 *Ranger*, and they have been purchased by buyers all over the world;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, The passion that Mr. Davis felt for his home state
23 extended to the land's scenic wonders; he loved hiking and camping
24 and watching the sun set over Lake Travis; until the end of his

1 life, he was a dedicated Longhorns fan; and

2 WHEREAS, Devoted to his family and friends, Johnny Davis was
3 a warmhearted and exuberant man with a deep commitment to the
4 history and heritage of the Lone Star State, and the beautiful maps
5 that he created will continue to delight, educate, and inspire
6 Texans for generations to come; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
8 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of John Edward Davis,
9 Jr., and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to
10 his daughters, Laura Davis Scace and Carolyn Davis; to his former
11 spouse, Betsy Kerr Davis; to his parents, John and Dolores Davis; to
12 his brother, Ben Davis; to his soul mate and best friend, Marilyn
13 Bryan; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
16 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of John Edward
17 Davis, Jr.