

By: Laubenberg

H.R. No. 1754

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the
2 passing of Mary Ellen Murphy Hall of Rockwall on August 27, 2008, at
3 the age of 83; and

4 WHEREAS, The daughter of Jahalon Murphy and Argo Murphy
5 Henry, Mary Ellen Murphy was born in Kemp on January 15, 1925; she
6 graduated with honors from Kaufman High School, and she married
7 Ralph Hall on November 14, 1944, in Pensacola, Florida, where Mr.
8 Hall was serving as a lieutenant in the United States Navy; and

9 WHEREAS, The couple made their first home in Daytona Beach,
10 but returned to Texas after World War II and raised their three sons
11 in Rockwall; a devoted wife and mother, Mrs. Hall helped her
12 children do their homework every day and provided loving support to
13 her husband through the years as he served as a county judge, state
14 senator, and 14-term U.S. congressman; and

15 WHEREAS, After her youngest child entered grade school, Mrs.
16 Hall began commuting to East Texas State University to earn her
17 college diploma; although she sometimes studied until well after
18 midnight and then rose early in the morning to care for her family,
19 she managed to complete her bachelor's degree with honors in just
20 3-1/2 years, with a double major in speech and drama; and

21 WHEREAS, This elegant and refined Texan traveled the world
22 with her husband and enjoyed annual vacations in Daytona Beach, but
23 home remained her favorite place of all, and caring for her
24 grandchildren was one of her greatest delights; active in her

1 community, she was a trustee of the Rockwall Independent School
2 District for five years, serving twice as vice president, and a
3 valued member of First United Methodist Church, where she taught
4 its Friendship Class for many years; in addition, she was a group
5 leader for Bible Study Fellowship, an international group of
6 Biblical scholars; her other associations included the Texas Ladies
7 Senate Club in Austin and the Congressional Wives Club in
8 Washington, D.C., and she was an honorary member of Delta Kappa
9 Gamma, the international honorary society for women in education;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Hall is deeply missed, but the memory of
12 her graciousness, her generosity, and her strength of character
13 remains to comfort and inspire all those who were privileged to know
14 her; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
16 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Mary Ellen Hall and
17 extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her
18 husband, U.S. Representative Ralph Hall; to her sons, Hamp Hall and
19 his wife, Jody, Brett Hall and his wife, Karen, and Blake Hall and
20 his wife, Catherine; to her grandchildren, Jay, Sarah, and Amanda
21 Hall, Crystal Tucker, and Steven Lule; to her aunt, Verna Randall;
22 to her sister-in-law, Rosemary Hall Scott; to her brother-in-law,
23 Hugh O. Hall and his wife, Doris; to her nephew, Dr. Victor Scott,
24 his wife, Vicki, and their children, Haley and Alexander; to her
25 cousin, Wilburn Pritchard; and to her other relatives and friends;
26 and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

H.R. No. 1754

1 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
2 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Mary Ellen
3 Hall.