

By: Miller of Comal

H.R. No. 1922

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Friends and family are mourning the loss of Oscar
2 Hardy Smith of New Braunfels, who passed away on April 14, 2009, at
3 the age of 89; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Arkansas on April 4, 1920, Oscar Smith
5 developed a love of sports as a youth and a lifelong devotion to the
6 Arkansas Razorbacks; he received a football scholarship to Ouachita
7 Baptist University, and while attending Ouachita, he married the
8 former Virginia Hudson; the couple would go on to raise two
9 children, Deb and Gary Bob, and welcome three grandchildren into
10 their family; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Smith answered his nation's call to duty with
12 enlistment in the U.S. Navy during World War II; he served on the
13 USS *Helena*, which was torpedoed and sunk, causing him to spend four
14 days in open water before being rescued, and the USS *Houston*, which
15 was torpedoed but stayed afloat; after the war, Mr. Smith returned
16 to finish his bachelor's degree at Ouachita and earned his master's
17 degree at Texas A&M University--Commerce; and

18 WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman worked as a coach and
19 teacher at Edcouch-Elsa High School, where he was named Coach of the
20 Year in 1953; he subsequently served as principal at Edcouch-Elsa
21 and remained in that post for 11 years before accepting a similar
22 position in New Braunfels; and

23 WHEREAS, Active in civic matters, Mr. Smith was a longtime
24 member of the Lions Club and served as president of that

1 organization in 1969 and 1970; he was also a devoted congregant of
2 First Baptist Church of New Braunfels and a valued member of the
3 local Masonic Lodge; and

4 WHEREAS, Fortunate enough to find love a second time after
5 his first wife passed away, Mr. Smith married Lillian Kramer in
6 2000; and

7 WHEREAS, Oscar Smith touched countless lives through his
8 professional endeavors and tireless community service, and he will
9 forever be remembered with deep affection by those who held him
10 close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Oscar Hardy Smith and
13 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,
14 Lillian Kramer Smith; to his children, Deb Adams and her husband,
15 Fred, and Gary Bob Smith and his wife, Joann; to his grandchildren,
16 Chris Adams, Kelli Bernal, and Hudson Smith; to his sister, Velma;
17 and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
20 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Oscar Hardy
21 Smith.