

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of Louis  
2 Alois Slovak, a lifelong resident of the Ennis area, who passed away  
3 on March 31, 2009, at the age of 91; and

4           WHEREAS, Mr. Slovak was born on March 28, 1918, in the  
5 Creechville Community and attended Village Creek School; called up  
6 by the United States Army in March 1941, he subsequently served  
7 three years in the Panama Canal Zone; and

8           WHEREAS, While on furlough, Mr. Slovak married Lillian  
9 Frances Vrana at St. John Nepomucene Catholic Church in Ennis on  
10 January 3, 1944; the next day, he reported to Camp Maxey for  
11 training, and in the late summer of 1944, he was deployed with his  
12 unit, the 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, Mechanized, to the  
13 European Theater; and

14           WHEREAS, On December 16, 1944, Mr. Slovak's squadron received  
15 the first thrust of the massive German offensive that became known  
16 as the Battle of the Bulge; as the early fighting raged, Mr. Slovak  
17 was dispatched on reconnaissance, and on December 17 he and his  
18 patrol were captured behind German lines; after narrowly escaping  
19 summary execution, he spent the next four months as a prisoner of  
20 war; and

21           WHEREAS, Liberated at the end of the fighting in Europe, Mr.  
22 Slovak was honorably discharged as a corporal in August 1945; among  
23 the numerous military awards conferred on this valiant Texan was  
24 the Purple Heart; and

1           WHEREAS, Following the war, Mr. Slovak farmed in Creechville  
2 and worked at Leggett and Platt, the Norris Lumber Company, and the  
3 Pearl Beer Distributing Company; active in the area's Czech  
4 community, he was a valued member of St. John Nepomucene and the  
5 KJT, as well as the Disabled American Veterans, the American  
6 Ex-Prisoners of War, VFW Post No. 7106, and the Catholic Order of  
7 Foresters; and

8           WHEREAS, Louis Slovak exemplified the best values of a  
9 generation that helped to preserve democracy and liberty at  
10 tremendous personal cost and that built a stronger, more prosperous  
11 society, and it is a privilege to honor his memory; now, therefore,  
12 be it

13           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Louis Alois Slovak and  
15 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his  
16 beloved wife of 65 years, Lillian Slovak; to his children and their  
17 spouses, Danny and Evelyn Slovak, Dolores Sykora, Ronnie and Susan  
18 Slovak, Michael and Laura Slovak, Timothy Slovak, and Judy Venable;  
19 to his brother, Bill Slovak and his wife, Mary, and his sister,  
20 Lillie Honza; to his 13 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren;  
21 and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

22           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
23 prepared for his family, and that when the Texas House of  
24 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Louis Alois  
25 Slovak.

Pitts

H.R. No. 2692

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2692 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 31, 2009.

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Chief Clerk of the House