

By: Pitts

H.R. No. 2692

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.