

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of U.S.
2 Army Colonel (Ret.) James Lloyd Hayden of El Paso, who passed away
3 on June 7, 2011, at the age of 87; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in New York on August 14, 1923, "Buster" Hayden
5 was the son, grandson, and great-grandson of U.S. Military Academy
6 graduates; he spent his early years at West Point, while his father
7 was an instructor there, and he later returned to the academy as a
8 member of the Class of 1945; and

9 WHEREAS, Colonel Hayden's first assignment was with the
10 postwar occupation force in Germany; he later served as a battery
11 commander during the Korean War, commanded two battalions in
12 Germany, and held key posts in the Pentagon and with the Joint
13 Chiefs of Staff; he retired in 1975 as chief of tactics at Fort
14 Bliss, concluding a distinguished 30-year military career; and

15 WHEREAS, Retirement scarcely marked the end of Colonel
16 Hayden's service to the army or to this country, however; in 1976 he
17 became a West Point admissions representative, a post he held until
18 just a few days before his death; for the past 15 years he also
19 chaired the Military Academy Advisory Board for Congressman
20 Silvestre Reyes; and

21 WHEREAS, In his volunteer role assisting the West Point
22 admissions office, Colonel Hayden spent countless hours
23 interviewing and counseling prospective cadets and their families;
24 he continued to stay in contact with students even after their

1 admission to the academy, offering support and encouragement, and
2 in many cases he followed their careers after graduation;
3 altogether, Colonel Hayden worked with more than 600 cadets, a
4 number reportedly unsurpassed by any other admissions
5 representative; and

6 WHEREAS, Among the El Paso students whose ability Colonel
7 Hayden recognized and whom he helped to steer toward West Point are
8 Major General Dana Pittard, who currently serves as the commander
9 of Fort Bliss, and Brigadier General Heidi Brown, who has just been
10 named the deputy commander of test and assessment for the Missile
11 Defense Agency in Redstone Arsenal, Alabama; and

12 WHEREAS, Colonel Hayden gave generously of his time and
13 talents in behalf of many other worthy causes as well; he served as
14 a member of the West Point Association of Graduates Board of
15 Trustees and as president of the Fort Bliss West Point Alumni
16 Association, founded the West Point Parents Club of El Paso, and sat
17 on numerous boards and committees; and

18 WHEREAS, Repeatedly recognized for his exceptional
19 contributions, Colonel Hayden was a recipient of the prestigious
20 West Point Distinguished Graduate Award and the first recipient of
21 the USMA Admissions Distinguished Service Award; the secretary of
22 the army presented him with the Department of the Army Decoration
23 for Exceptional Civilian Service, and in 2010 the Colonel James
24 Hayden Hall, new home to the 31st ADA Brigade headquarters, was
25 dedicated in his honor at Fort Sill; the mayor of El Paso also
26 conferred on him the city's highest honor, the Conquistador Award;
27 and

1 WHEREAS, James Hayden and his wife, the former Eoline T.
2 "Sugar" Thompson, exchanged their wedding vows on October 17, 1947,
3 on Governor's Island, New York; they shared a deeply rewarding
4 union, and over the years they became the proud parents of a son and
5 five daughters; and

6 WHEREAS, An exceptional leader, Colonel Hayden was held in
7 the greatest respect for his unshakeable integrity, keen analytical
8 mind, and genuine concern for others; hundreds of young Texans
9 developed into capable leaders themselves with the aid of his wise
10 counsel, and his transformative influence will live on through
11 them, as it will through all those whose lives he touched and
12 enriched; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
14 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory
15 of Colonel (Ret.) James Lloyd Hayden and extend sincere sympathy to
16 the members of his family: to his wife of 64 years, Sugar Hayden; to
17 his 6 children and their spouses; to his 16 grandchildren and 11
18 great-grandchildren; and to his other relatives and friends; and,
19 be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Colonel
23 (Ret.) James Lloyd Hayden.

Margo
Marquez

H.R. No. 224

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 224 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on June 28, 2011.

Chief Clerk of the House