

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Lone Star State lost a respected public servant  
2 with the death of former state district court and court of appeals  
3 judge Clyde Robert Ashworth of Arlington, who passed away on March  
4 28, 2010, at the age of 87; and

5           WHEREAS, A native of Kaufman, Clyde Ashworth was born on  
6 March 7, 1923, to Judge Charles Ashworth and Lucy Nugent Ashworth;  
7 he graduated from high school as president of his class, attended  
8 The University of Texas at Austin, and went on to graduate from  
9 North Texas Agricultural College; and

10           WHEREAS, In 1942, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps and served  
11 his country with distinction in the South Pacific during World War  
12 II; he attained the rank of sergeant and completed officer  
13 candidate training, through which he attended Colgate University  
14 for two semesters; commissioned a second lieutenant, he was  
15 released from active duty in 1945 and continued his service in the  
16 reserve; and

17           WHEREAS, Judge Ashworth began his distinguished legal career  
18 after earning his bachelor of business administration and law  
19 degrees from Southern Methodist University; he opened his own  
20 practice in Arlington in 1950 but was soon recalled to active duty  
21 as a first lieutenant; assigned to legal duty, he attended the Naval  
22 School of Military Justice and graduated with honors before working  
23 as a prosecutor and defense counsel for General Courts Martial at  
24 the Marine Corps Base in Quantico, Virginia; and

1           WHEREAS, Finishing his military service as a captain, Judge  
2 Ashworth returned to Arlington in 1953 and established a successful  
3 practice with Stewart Devore that grew to include six partners and  
4 two associates; in November 1969, he earned appointment to the 67th  
5 District Court, beginning an esteemed tenure that spanned 13 years;  
6 and

7           WHEREAS, Judge Ashworth's outstanding work in behalf of his  
8 fellow citizens led to his election to the Second Court of Appeals  
9 in Fort Worth in 1982; he retired four years later, assuming the  
10 status of senior judge, and continued to serve as a visiting justice  
11 on both trial and appellate courts; he also worked with the law  
12 firms of Jenks Garrett and Bruce Ashworth, his son, and later  
13 established a mediation and arbitration practice that he managed  
14 until his passing; and

15           WHEREAS, A leader in his profession, Judge Ashworth was  
16 admitted to practice in all Texas state courts, the United States  
17 District Court for the Northern District of Texas, the United  
18 States Court of Military Appeals, and the United States Supreme  
19 Court; he served as president of the Arlington Bar Association,  
20 director of the Tarrant County Bar Association and the Tarrant  
21 County Trial Lawyers Association, chair of the Tarrant County  
22 Juvenile Board, and presiding judge of the Tarrant County Board of  
23 District Judges; a sustaining life fellow for the Texas Bar  
24 Foundation and charter sustaining life fellow for the Tarrant  
25 County Bar Foundation, he was also a valued member of the District  
26 XII Grievance Committee of the State Bar, the College of the State  
27 Bar of Texas, and the Texas Center for Legal Ethics and

1 Professionalism; and

2 WHEREAS, Judge Ashworth contributed his leadership and  
3 expertise as a director and chair of the Texas Turnpike Authority  
4 and as president of the Arlington Independent School District from  
5 1958 until 1969; moreover, he was a member of such worthwhile  
6 organizations as the Arlington Chamber of Commerce and the Civitan,  
7 Optimist, and Rotary Clubs of Arlington; and

8 WHEREAS, His exceptional efforts to benefit his fellow  
9 citizens earned him a number of accolades through the years,  
10 including the Silver Gavel Award for distinguished judicial service  
11 from the Tarrant County Bar Association and the dedication of a  
12 local elementary school in his honor; and

13 WHEREAS, A congregant of Arlington First United Methodist  
14 Church for seven decades, Judge Ashworth served his community of  
15 faith as president of the Methodist Men, Sunday school teacher and  
16 superintendent, and usher captain, and as a member of the trustees,  
17 official, and administrative boards; and

18 WHEREAS, Judge Ashworth enjoyed the support of a loving  
19 family in all of his endeavors; he shared 50 years of marriage with  
20 Ira Ashworth, with whom he raised five children, and after her  
21 passing, he was fortunate to find love a second time with Juanita  
22 Phillips, whom he married in 2002; and

23 WHEREAS, Clyde Ashworth was a true asset to his community,  
24 his country, and his profession, and his deep commitment to  
25 fairness and justice will continue to resonate in countless lives  
26 for many years to come; now, therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas

1 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of the Honorable Clyde  
2 Ashworth and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family:  
3 to his wife, Juanita Ashworth; to his children, Clyde R. "Bob"  
4 Ashworth, Jr., Mark Nugent Ashworth and his wife, Brenda, Bruce  
5 Alan Ashworth and his wife, Celeste, and Amy Elaine Ashworth; to his  
6 grandchildren, Hamilton, Sage, Lindsay, Jean, Collin, Lucy, and  
7 Allison; to his five stepchildren, Barbara Pace and her husband,  
8 Jim, Britt Phillips and his wife, Janet, Lisa Phillips, Sally  
9 Mycoskie and her husband, Cliff, and Sara Bishop and her husband,  
10 Joe; to his step-grandchildren, Emily, Nicole, David, Brandon,  
11 Claire, Jordan, Kate, Hunter, and Phillip; and to his other  
12 relatives and many friends; and, be it further

13         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
15 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Judge Clyde  
16 Ashworth.

Patrick

H.R. No. 391

---

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 391 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 3, 2011.

---

Chief Clerk of the House