

By: Geren

H.R. No. 2119

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life made rich through joyous times and meaningful
2 accomplishments drew to a close with the passing of longtime Fort
3 Worth resident Colonel Philip J. Kuhl on February 8, 2010, at the
4 age of 95; and

5 WHEREAS, The son of Charles and Mildred Kuhl, Phil Kuhl was
6 born in Astoria, Illinois, on September 27, 1914, and grew up in the
7 central Illinois community of Galesburg; he worked in his father's
8 prominent retail specialty shop until he headed off to Knox
9 College, where he earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics and
10 was a competitive swimmer and a member of Phi Delta Theta, Scabbard
11 & Blade, and ROTC; and

12 WHEREAS, Colonel Kuhl joined the Army Air Corps as the shadow
13 of war loomed; he received his wings from the Air Corps Advanced
14 Flying School, Attack Division, at Kelly and Randolph Air Force
15 Bases in San Antonio and went on to command B-17 and B-24 bombers in
16 the Pacific Theater; during the Battle of Coral Sea, he was forced
17 to ditch his plane in the ocean, and he strove heroically to save
18 the lives of his crew; he was awarded the Silver Star, the Legion of
19 Merit, and the Purple Heart, among other decorations; and

20 WHEREAS, After World War II ended, Colonel Kuhl continued his
21 career as a command pilot and mastered jet flight; he graduated from
22 the Air Force Institute of Technology and the Armed Forces Staff
23 College and rose to become a full colonel, with such
24 responsibilities as directing procurement, production, and

1 logistics for the USAF Air Materiel Command; his leadership skills
2 took him to the Pentagon, as well as Wright-Patterson AFB and
3 numerous strategic air bases around the world; and

4 WHEREAS, While stationed in New England in 1949, Colonel Kuhl
5 met the love of his life, Barbara Dunn; they married the following
6 year in her hometown of Boston and later became the parents of two
7 children, John and Pam; the family moved to Fort Worth after Colonel
8 Kuhl retired from military service, and he was employed in the
9 aerospace industry before engaging in the real estate business with
10 his wife; and

11 WHEREAS, This charming, witty, and multitalented gentleman
12 enjoyed a host of outdoor activities, including hunting, fishing,
13 and waterskiing, and was equally interested in music and scholarly
14 pursuits; clever and inquisitive, he liked to figure out how things
15 worked and could fix them when they stopped, and he learned how to
16 build radios and computers and to make wine, beer, and even maple
17 syrup; in addition, he took care of countless cherished pets
18 through the years; and

19 WHEREAS, Above all, Phil Kuhl was devoted to his wife and
20 family; an exemplary member of the Greatest Generation, he inspired
21 all who were privileged to know him by embracing life boldly and
22 holding his loved ones ever close in his heart; now, therefore, be
23 it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
25 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Colonel Philip
26 J. Kuhl and extend sincere condolences to the members of his
27 family: to his wife, Barbara Kuhl; to his son, Philip John Kuhl,

1 Jr.; to his daughter, Pamela Kuhl-Linscomb, and her husband, Daniel
2 J. Linscomb; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it
3 further

4 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
5 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
6 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Colonel
7 Philip J. Kuhl.