

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 620

In Memory
of
Claudia Hudspeth Abbey Ball

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of San Antonio and Hudspeth County in mourning the loss of Claudia Hudspeth Abbey Ball, who died March 9, 2011, at the age of 80; and

WHEREAS, Born November 5, 1930, in El Paso, Claudia Hudspeth Abbey attended Saint Mary's Hall and graduated in 1948 as senior class president; while in school, she developed a love of ranching from spending summers with her grandparents on their beautiful Hudspeth River Ranch; Claudia attended Vassar College and graduated Phi Beta Kappa; and

WHEREAS, In 1953, she was an Order of the Alamo Fiesta duchess of the Grecian Hillside, and she married her duke, Judge T. Armour Ball, who passed away in 1990; they were blessed with a son, William Armour Ball, who died in 1985, and a daughter, Mary Alice Ball Strunk; and

WHEREAS, Claudia was a leading San Antonio citizen who was noted for her many interests and talents; she was an editor for *The Alamo Heights News* and was famous for her entertaining articles; she became knowledgeable about landscaping and was an expert on native plants and flowers; she developed into a champion golfer and founded the "Quien Sabe?" tournament at the San Antonio Country Club; and

WHEREAS, During HemisFair, she organized social events and tours for the Institute of Texas Cultures; she invested her time with the Texas Folklife Festival and served as its director; she and her friends founded Canterbury Cannery, and they sold and shipped their tasty products, including their famous Jalapeño Jelly, throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Not one to shy from challenges, Claudia took up ranching as a profession and was named Conservation Rancher of the Year in 1983; she founded and directed the Holistic Resource Management Program and implemented its principles on her beloved Hudspeth River Ranch; her ranch then served as a model for teaching students at Texas A&M University, Sul Ross State University, and Angelo State University; and

WHEREAS, A hunting enthusiast, Claudia actively pursued opportunities for deer, antelope, bird, and duck hunting; she hunted in such places as Denmark and Spain, and she participated in at least seven safaris in South Africa; she was also an enthusiastic fan of the San Antonio Spurs; and

WHEREAS, An exemplary lady whose zest for life was inspirational to others, Claudia was beloved and respected for her unique accomplishments, her engaging personality, her sense of humor, and her pursuit of excellence in all of her endeavors; and

WHEREAS, A remarkable woman who was known for her strength, generosity, and dauntless spirit, Claudia gave unselfishly of her time to others and to her community, and she will long be remembered with affection and appreciation by all who were privileged to share in her life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Claudia Hudspeth Abbey Ball: her daughter and son-in-law, Mary Alice Ball Strunk and William Robert Strunk; and her grandchildren, William Armour Strunk, Sarah Campbell Strunk, and Claudia Abbey Strunk; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the members of her family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Claudia Hudspeth Abbey Ball.

Wentworth

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 23, 2011, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate