

By: Johnson

H.R. No. 194

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of Willie
2 Sylvester Thompson of Dallas, who passed away on July 20, 2013, at
3 the age of 88; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Wilford and Katie Thompson, Willie
5 Thompson was born on May 23, 1925, in Hempstead; after losing both
6 of his parents at a young age, he was raised by his uncle and aunt,
7 Dank and Louida Thompson; he graduated from high school in the midst
8 of World War II and soon enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he served
9 from 1943 to 1946; and

10 WHEREAS, Following his honorable discharge from the
11 military, Mr. Thompson earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture
12 from Prairie View A&M University, while also obtaining
13 certification in elementary and secondary education; during his
14 time at Prairie View, he met the love of his life, the former Edna
15 Lee Johnson, and the pair exchanged wedding vows in 1947; they
16 became the proud parents of three daughters, Jacqueline, Helen, and
17 Gwenda, and with the passing years, they had the joy of welcoming
18 into their family four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Thompson began his professional career at
21 Jarvis Christian College, where he led the agriculture department
22 for seven years; he subsequently became a county agricultural
23 extension agent, and he continued to serve in that capacity until
24 his retirement in 1985; and

1 WHEREAS, While living in Longview, Mr. Thompson was an active
2 member of East Cotton Street Church of Christ, where he taught the
3 Bible and New Converts classes and served on the leadership team;
4 ordained an elder of the church, he held that office for 15 years,
5 until relocating to Dallas; there he joined Central Pointe Church
6 of Christ, a congregation led by his grandson, Dr. Rodney Dulin; he
7 continued to distinguish himself through his dedication to
8 evangelism and ministering to new converts, and in 2012, he was
9 named shepherd emeritus of the congregation; this esteemed
10 gentleman was also the author of a number of books, articles, and
11 lessons on Christianity; and

12 WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to both his family and his faith,
13 Willie Thompson enriched the lives of countless individuals, and he
14 will forever hold a treasured place in the hearts of all those who
15 held him dear; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
17 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
18 Willie Sylvester Thompson and extend sincere sympathy to the
19 members of his family: to his wife, Edna Thompson; to his daughters,
20 Jacqueline Dulin and Helen Williams and her husband, Gary; to his
21 grandchildren, Chantal McRae Cruthird and her husband, Robert,
22 Rodney Dulin and his wife, Shalonda, and Monica and Brandon
23 Williams; to his great-grandchildren, Alexandria Cruthird, Mia
24 Dulin, Robert Cruthird, Jr., Chayse Williams, Johnathan Cruthird,
25 and Roman Dulin; to his dear friends, James and Carrie Coy and Ray
26 and Shirley Perkins; and to his other relatives and many friends;
27 and, be it further

1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
3 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Willie
4 Sylvester Thompson.