

By: Craddick

H.C.R. No. 75

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, The certain knowledge of a life well lived may  
2 temper the sorrow felt at the passing of former state  
3 representative Frank Kell Cahoon of Midland on January 31, 2013, at  
4 the age of 78; and

5           WHEREAS, Born on June 20, 1934, in Austin, Frank Cahoon was  
6 raised in Wichita Falls, where he received early lessons in both  
7 entrepreneurship and community service from his grandfather and  
8 namesake, Frank Kell, one of the city's early pioneers and leaders;  
9 after graduating from high school, he enrolled at the Colorado  
10 School of Mines, and then transferred to The University of Texas at  
11 Austin after being introduced to his future wife, Paula Powers,  
12 while working in the Texas oil fields the summer after his freshman  
13 year; and

14           WHEREAS, The couple married in 1957, and after Mr. Cahoon  
15 earned his bachelor's degree in geology, they moved to Killeen,  
16 where he was stationed at Fort Hood as a first lieutenant in the  
17 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; in 1959, the family moved to Midland;  
18 and

19           WHEREAS, Mr. Cahoon was elected to represent Midland in the  
20 Texas House of Representatives in 1964 and held the distinction of  
21 being the only Republican to serve during the 1965 legislative  
22 session; he was reelected for a second term before returning home to  
23 Midland and pursuing his career as a petroleum entrepreneur, which  
24 led to his playing a prominent role in the construction of one of

1 Alaska's first oil refineries and in numerous local energy  
2 investments; his service to this state also continued, as he was  
3 later appointed to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, This amiable and genteel West Texan was an active  
6 and generous supporter of the civic and cultural life of his home  
7 community, as well; he served on the Midland City Council and in  
8 various volunteer and leadership roles with the Midland Memorial  
9 Hospital, the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, the Museum of the  
10 Southwest, the Texas Historical Foundation, the Chihuahuan Desert  
11 Ranch Institute, and the First Presbyterian Church; in addition, he  
12 took great pride in volunteering and fund-raising for the  
13 Commemorative Air Force and the Sibley Nature Center; and

14 WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to his family, Mr. Cahoon was married  
15 to his wife, Paula, for 56 years, and together they took the  
16 greatest delight in their children and grandchildren; known for his  
17 warmth and witty storytelling, Mr. Cahoon had a passion for history  
18 and was an avid traveler, a hobby he shared with his family while  
19 taking them on trips to the far reaches of the globe; and

20 WHEREAS, Frank Kell Cahoon leaves a legacy of leadership and  
21 generosity that will continue to benefit and inspire the people in  
22 this state for years to come, and he will be remembered with deep  
23 affection and admiration by all who were fortunate enough to share  
24 in the richness of his life; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas pay  
26 tribute to the life of the Honorable Frank Kell Cahoon and extend  
27 sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife, Paula

1 Cahoon; to his children, Corinne Bowers and her husband, Steve,  
2 Frank Kell Cahoon, Jr., and his wife, Debbie, and Joseph Cahoon and  
3 his wife, Christie; to his grandchildren, Sara Kell and Beth Bowers  
4 and Lucas, Charlie, Claire, John, and Anne Cahoon; to his beloved  
5 sister, Lula Jane Seydell; and to his other relatives and many  
6 friends; and, be it further

7         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
8 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
9 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of  
10 the Honorable Frank Kell Cahoon.