

By: Marquez

H.C.R. No. 126

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Juan C. Marquez of El Paso rendered distinguished
2 service as a private in the United States Army during World War II,
3 and his courageous efforts have been posthumously recognized with a
4 ceremony at Fort Bliss, where the honors that he earned were
5 formally presented to members of his family; and

6 WHEREAS, A native of Cuadrilla, in southern El Paso County,
7 Mr. Marquez was born on June 14, 1911; he reported to Fort Bliss on
8 January 19, 1944, and three weeks later he was sent to the European
9 theater, where he served as a rifleman with the 44th Infantry
10 Division, 3rd Battalion, 71st Infantry Regiment; in the course of
11 fighting, Private Marquez was wounded by shrapnel, and on December
12 11, 1944, he was struck by a German tank near Woelfling, in
13 northeastern France, and suffered broken ribs and a separated
14 shoulder; and

15 WHEREAS, After the end of the war in Europe, Mr. Marquez
16 returned home to his family in El Paso; tragically, he died in a car
17 crash on August 29, 1948, leaving behind his wife, Daisy, and their
18 four young sons; and

19 WHEREAS, Years after his death, Mr. Marquez's family gained
20 an even deeper appreciation for his contributions during the war
21 when they read in his discharge papers a list of the medals that he
22 had earned, but which he had never received; with the help of
23 Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, this oversight was rectified, and at
24 a ceremony held at Fort Bliss on December 7, 2012, Major General

1 Dana Pittard officially presented Mr. Marquez's military awards to
2 his two surviving sons, Dr. J. Antonio Marquez and Dr. Ricardo
3 Marquez, his granddaughter, Texas State Representative Marisa
4 Marquez, and other members of his family; these awards included two
5 Bronze Star Medals, the Purple Heart, the Good Conduct Medal, the
6 European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three stars,
7 the World War II Victory Medal, the Army of Occupation Medal, the
8 Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Honorable Service Lapel Button;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Through his steadfast valor and unwavering
11 dedication to duty, Juan Marquez embodied the highest ideals of the
12 United States armed forces, and his fellow citizens owe him a debt
13 of gratitude that the passage of time can never diminish; now,
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
16 hereby pay tribute to the life of World War II veteran Juan
17 C. Marquez and commemorate the posthumous presentation of his
18 military awards; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for his family as an expression of high regard by the Texas
21 House of Representatives and Senate.