

By: Patrick

H.R. No. 32

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the  
2 death of Jack Edwin Harris, Sr., of Arlington on November 29, 2011,  
3 at the age of 88; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on March 27, 1923, in Hays, Kansas, Jack Harris  
5 moved to Los Angeles as a young man and pursued a career in show  
6 business; he soon met and fell in love with Joanne O'Hara, an  
7 actress at the Pasadena Playhouse, and they were married in 1944;  
8 the couple remained in the area for nearly a decade, during which  
9 time Mr. Harris founded a theater and produced and directed many  
10 plays; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1953, he and his family moved to Arlington, where  
12 Mr. Harris practiced law, became a real estate developer, and  
13 helped establish Guardian Title Company, one of the first such  
14 businesses in Tarrant County; he never lost his love of the theater,  
15 though, and in the 1970s, he cofounded both Theatre Arlington and  
16 the Creative Arts Theatre and School, a successful youth program;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris also distinguished himself as a rancher  
19 and an aficionado of the culture and history of the cowboy; he loved  
20 riding horses, and he participated in trail rides well into his  
21 eighties; and

22 WHEREAS, Above all else, Mr. Harris was devoted to his  
23 family, which over the years grew to include two sons, nine  
24 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren; and

1           WHEREAS, Jack Harris inspired others with his passion, his  
2 drive, and his numerous achievements, and he will long be  
3 remembered with admiration and affection by all those who were  
4 privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
6 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Jack Edwin Harris,  
7 Sr., and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to  
8 his wife, Joanne O'Hara Harris; to his sons, Chris Harris and Jack  
9 Harris, Jr.; to his nine grandchildren and five  
10 great-grandchildren; and to his other relatives and friends; and,  
11 be it further

12           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
13 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
14 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jack Edwin  
15 Harris, Sr.