

By: King of Taylor

H.R. No. 485

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Sweetwater lost one of its most admired citizens  
2 with the passing of Fred Elias Nayfa on April 10, 2012, at the age of  
3 94; and

4           WHEREAS, The son of Elias and Almaz Nayfa, who immigrated  
5 from Lebanon, Mr. Nayfa was born in Greenville on August 30, 1917;  
6 he attended Oklahoma City University and met his future wife, Jo  
7 Farris, while he was a student there; they married in Gainesville on  
8 April 17, 1946, and the devoted couple later became the parents of  
9 three children, Nadine, Abe, and Jeanne; eventually, he knew the  
10 joy of becoming a proud grandfather as well; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Nayfa served his country in the United States  
12 Navy during World War II as a storekeeper first class and radio  
13 operator; an entrepreneur, he owned a number of family enterprises,  
14 among them The Hub Store, The Fair Shop, and ENC Discount; he was  
15 also a sales representative for Nyco Products Company before his  
16 retirement in 1982; and

17           WHEREAS, Active in Masonic Lodge No. 571, Mr. Nayfa served as  
18 a master and district deputy, and he was a member of the Chapter and  
19 Council, the Commandery, the Scottish Rite, the York Rite, and the  
20 Suez Shrine Temple, as well as a light-hearted group known as the  
21 Camel Herders; he served as director of the Suez Temple, and the  
22 organization honored him at a one-day ceremonial and Camel Herders  
23 party in 2002; in addition to his 65-year pin for his work in the  
24 Masons and a 50-year pin from Suez Shrine Temple, he received

1 numerous other accolades, among them the Golden Trowel Award from  
2 Masonic Lodge No. 571 and the Excalibur Award from the Knights  
3 Templar of Sweetwater Commandery; and

4         WHEREAS, This dynamic Texan further benefited his community  
5 as a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled  
6 American Veterans; moreover, he participated in the American Cancer  
7 Society cancer walk every year as a survivor; he gave generously of  
8 his talents as a longtime parishioner of First United Methodist  
9 Church, and he was a member of the Sunday school Open Door Class; in  
10 his leisure, he enjoyed hunting and fishing, and he was a talented  
11 golfer who scored a hole-in-one on four occasions; and

12         WHEREAS, Although Fred Nayfa is deeply missed, he continues  
13 to hold a special place in the hearts of innumerable people, and  
14 memories of his kindness, faith, and dedication remain to comfort  
15 those he left behind; now, therefore, be it

16         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
17 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Fred Elias Nayfa and  
18 extend sincere condolences to his loved ones; and, be it further

19         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
20 prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas House  
21 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Fred  
22 Elias Nayfa.