

By: Craddick

H.R. No. 753

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, An esteemed Texan and friend to many, A. J. Cain of
2 Midland passed away on February 3, 2013, at the age of 84; and

3 WHEREAS, Born in Big Spring on August 31, 1928, to Alice
4 Haynes Cain and Andrew Jackson Cain, A. J. Cain graduated from Big
5 Spring High School; he enlisted in the United States Army when he
6 was all of 17 years old, and after completing his service, he was
7 honorably discharged in 1948; he subsequently attended Howard
8 County Junior College and then transferred to the University of
9 North Texas, where he earned a degree in marketing; a talented
10 athlete, he played baseball and football and ran track while in high
11 school and college; and

12 WHEREAS, On September 8, 1951, A. J. Cain exchanged wedding
13 vows with the former Bonnie Dempsey in Big Spring, and the couple
14 became the proud parents of two daughters, Chris and Diane; Mr. and
15 Mrs. Cain enjoyed a loving marriage of 58 years, until her passing
16 in 2010; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Cain's first employment after college was with
18 the Hughes Tool Company, and during his time with that
19 organization, he and his family lived in Odessa, Levelland,
20 Brownfield, and Andrews; in 1956, he accepted a job with Mustang
21 Mud, beginning a longtime career in the drilling mud business;
22 Mr. and Mrs. Cain relocated to Midland in 1963 and made that
23 community their home for the rest of their lives; and

24 WHEREAS, Working with Mustang Mud gave Mr. Cain the chance to

1 meet many people, and his clients often became close friends; aside
2 from his work, he enjoyed time spent with the downtown morning
3 coffee group he belonged to, and he was an avid sports fan,
4 especially loyal to the Dallas Cowboys and Texas Rangers; he also
5 took great pleasure in art, music, the theater, delicious food, and
6 good books; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Cain attended Trinity Presbyterian Church for
8 nearly half a century, serving at various times as a ruling elder,
9 deacon, and trustee and assisting his wife with the youth
10 fellowship group, accompanying them on mission trips and
11 excursions; late in life, he joined Grace Presbyterian Church; and

12 WHEREAS, Generous and giving, Mr. Cain helped many young
13 people to continue their education, offering encouragement and
14 assistance, and he supported the work of nonprofits and charitable
15 organizations; he loved to travel with his wife, exploring the
16 country and the world, and he took up flying in his forties; a
17 favorite spot to visit was the family cabin in Ruidoso, New Mexico,
18 where he would hike, ski, entertain friends, and watch and feed the
19 birds; and

20 WHEREAS, A. J. Cain was a gentle man whose boundless warmth
21 and zest for life will long be remembered by everyone who had the
22 privilege of knowing him; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
24 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of A. J. Cain and
25 extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his
26 daughters, Chris Cain Laufer and her husband, Jeff, and Diane Cain
27 Warner and her husband, Tom; to his five grandchildren, Shannon

1 Laufer Mann and her husband, John, Elyse Laufer Starr and her
2 husband, Ryan, Jake Laufer and his wife, Courtney, Thomas Michael
3 Warner, and Luke Warner; to his great-grandchild, Hayley Starr; to
4 his sisters, Billie Carr and Betty Lively; and to his other
5 relatives and friends; and, be it further

6 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
7 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
8 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of
9 A. J. Cain.