

By: Bonnen of Brazoria

H.R. No. 1406

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Brazoria County Veterans Service Officer John  
2 Elwood Jerabeck of Angleton passed away on December 12, 2011, at the  
3 age of 64, bringing a great loss to his family, friends, and fellow  
4 citizens; and

5           WHEREAS, The son of Lieutenant Colonel J. Roland Jerabeck and  
6 Alice Beckman Jerabeck, John Jerabeck was born in Houston on July  
7 23, 1947; he graduated from Memorial High School and enlisted in the  
8 United States Army in 1969; during the Vietnam War, he served as a  
9 tank commander in the Americal 23rd Infantry Division; and

10           WHEREAS, This proud combat veteran went on to earn his  
11 bachelor's degree in economics and business administration from the  
12 University of St. Thomas; for many years, he worked in the energy  
13 industry for a number of oil field-related companies, among them  
14 Cameron Iron Works; and

15           WHEREAS, Committed to improving the lives of others who had  
16 served their country, Mr. Jerabeck became Veterans Service Officer  
17 for Brazoria County in 1997; he collaborated closely with the  
18 Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center as a member of  
19 its Veterans Satisfaction Committee and Management Advisory  
20 Council to ensure that area Texans who had served their country  
21 received the best possible care, and he was instrumental in  
22 bringing the VA Medical Clinic to Brazoria County; moreover, he  
23 played a key role in the establishment of an annual, countywide  
24 Veterans Day parade and celebration; and

1           WHEREAS, Mr. Jerabeck further distinguished himself as  
2 regional director of the Veterans County Service Officer  
3 Association, and he was deeply involved in the development of the  
4 Ring of Honor memorial, chairing the committee in charge of the  
5 effort from its first meeting in early 2007; in addition, he was  
6 active in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled  
7 American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans Association, and Americal 23rd  
8 Division Association, and he benefited the wider community as a  
9 member of the Knights of Columbus; and

10           WHEREAS, Mr. Jerabeck was named the 2000 Outstanding  
11 Veterans Service Officer of the Year by the Veterans Service  
12 Officer Association of Texas; he was also the recipient of numerous  
13 other awards, including the Citation for Meritorious Service from  
14 the American Legion National Veterans Affairs Rehabilitation  
15 Commission, the County Service Officer Annual Appreciation Award  
16 from the Texas Veterans Commission, and the Legion of Honor Award  
17 from the Chapel of Four Chaplains; and

18           WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Mr. Jerabeck shared 28 years  
19 of marriage with his wife, Suzanne, and he was the proud father of  
20 two children, Jessica and Joseph; in his leisure time, he enjoyed  
21 riding his Harley-Davidson motorcycle and relaxing at the beach in  
22 his recreational vehicle; he found inspiration in the poem  
23 "Desiderata" and had it printed on business cards to give to people  
24 he met; and

25           WHEREAS, John Jerabeck dedicated his life to meaningful  
26 service in behalf of his fellow veterans, and those who were  
27 privileged to know him will long remember the way he touched their

1 lives with his kindness, optimism, and humility; now, therefore, be  
2 it

3         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
4 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of John Elwood  
5 Jerabeck and extend sincere condolences to his loved ones; and, be  
6 it further

7         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
8 prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas House  
9 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of John  
10 Elwood Jerabeck.