

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 756

In Memory  
of  
Harlow L. Sprouse

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of Harlow L. Sprouse, who died April 5, 2013, at the age of 82; and

**WHEREAS**, This proud Texan was a towering figure in legal ethics and jurisprudence; as a civil trial lawyer, as a leader in the State Bar of Texas, and as an author, he made a profound and lasting impact on Texas law; and

**WHEREAS**, Harlow Sprouse was born March 19, 1931, in Vega, Texas; he served in the United States Air Force in the early 1950s and graduated from the University of North Texas in 1956; he then attended The University of Texas School of Law, where he participated in the school's first annual Moot Court; he won Moot Court in 1959, was named the Outstanding Senior Student, and graduated third in his class with a doctorate in jurisprudence; in 1960, he received the second-highest score on the bar exam; and

**WHEREAS**, Harlow joined the Underwood Law Firm in Amarillo, and in 1966, he became a partner; he was certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Civil Trial Law and served as president of the Amarillo Bar and as director of the State Bar of Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1980, Harlow had the distinct honor of being elected a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers; he coauthored the *Texas Trial Notebook* in 1984, and he was the cowriter of the Texas Lawyer's Creed, the Supreme Court-approved guide in civility and professionalism for all attorneys; and

**WHEREAS,** For more than 20 years, Harlow served as a board member for the Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism, and his colleagues in the law profession honored him by asking him to run for president of the State Bar of Texas seven times; and

**WHEREAS,** This venerable gentleman had a far-reaching influence on the Texas legal system, and his firm, Sprouse Shrader Smith, is today one of the foremost law firms in the Southwest; and

**WHEREAS,** Harlow was proud of his family and was devoted to his wife of almost 55 years, Jerre; he was a doting father and grandfather and was noted for his warmth and wit, and he leaves behind memories that will forever be cherished by all who had the good fortune to know him; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Harlow L. Sprouse; and, be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Harlow Sprouse.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 1, 2013, by a rising vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate