

By: Springer

H.R. No. 495

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 100th birthday of an esteemed Texan is truly
2 cause for celebration, and Alwana Vaughan of Graham is marking this
3 significant milestone in her life on February 26, 2015, to the
4 delight of her many admirers; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in 1915, the former Alwana Wood is the daughter
6 of John Henderson Wood, a Young County pioneer who operated the
7 first brick factory in Graham; her mother was a piano teacher, and
8 she demonstrated musical talent at an early age and began
9 performing; over the years, she sang on the radio, won a Charleston
10 contest, and conducted the Graham Toy Symphony Band, among other
11 accomplishments; and

12 WHEREAS, She was joined in matrimony to Alfred Lilburn
13 Vaughan in Altus, Oklahoma, in 1935, and they settled in Graham in
14 the early 1950s; the couple shared a fulfilling relationship for 58
15 years until Mr. Vaughan's passing in 1993; and

16 WHEREAS, Mrs. Vaughan joined the faculty of Graham High
17 School, and she taught piano and voice to countless local residents
18 during a career that spanned many decades; even after her
19 retirement from the school in 1976, she continued to serve as an
20 advisor to the theater program and its students; she has graced the
21 stage at innumerable events, and in May 2012, the *Graham Leader*
22 reported that she stole the show as a presenter at the Graham High
23 School Scholarship Ceremony; and

24 WHEREAS, Deeply committed to her community, Mrs. Vaughan was

1 a charter member of the Graham Hospital Auxiliary and the Graham
2 Concert Association, and she has belonged to the Daughters of the
3 American Revolution for 60 years; she has also given generously of
4 her time and talents to the Rotary Club, the Rotary Follies, Graham
5 Regional Theatre, and the Graham Concert Series; named Citizen of
6 the Year, she was recognized twice by the Graham Chamber of Commerce
7 for her contributions, and in January 2015, the city council
8 approved plans to create a small park in her honor next to Graham
9 Memorial Auditorium; and

10 WHEREAS, Alwana Vaughan has earned a special place in the
11 hearts of her fellow citizens, and it is truly a pleasure to honor
12 her for having joined an elite group of Texans who can look back on
13 100 years of meaningful achievements; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
15 Legislature hereby congratulate Alwana Vaughan on the occasion of
16 her 100th birthday and extend to her sincere best wishes for
17 continued happiness; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Mrs. Vaughan as an expression of high regard by the
20 Texas House of Representatives.