

By: Springer

H.R. No. 883

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Keith Grice King of Gainesville on
2 February 6, 2015, at the age of 57, has brought a profound loss to
3 his loved ones and to the community that he served as a newspaper
4 publisher and dedicated civic leader; and

5 WHEREAS, A lifelong resident of Gainesville, Keith King was
6 born on October 23, 1957, the son of William and Margaret Jo King;
7 he developed an early interest in journalism while he was a student
8 at Gainesville High School, where he also played the trombone,
9 excelled as a drum major in the school band, and belonged to the
10 National Honor Society; after graduating in 1976, he attended North
11 Central Texas College and the University of North Texas; and

12 WHEREAS, In his younger days, Mr. King enjoyed a varied
13 career working with such employers as the *Gainesville Daily*
14 *Register*, *New York Life*, the Tyler and Simpson Company, and
15 Gainesville Memorial Hospital; he went on to own King's 1-Hour
16 Photo in Gainesville and Sherman for close to 15 years, and he
17 served in the public relations department of Children's Medical
18 Center of Dallas; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. King was firm in his opinion that news should be
20 free and accessible to anyone, and he was moved to put that belief
21 into action by establishing a free publication in Cooke County;
22 with his son, Grice, he operated the *Weekly News of Cooke County* for
23 nearly 11 years, and he was deeply proud of its role in keeping area
24 citizens informed on matters of import to the community; and

1 WHEREAS, While reporting on current events, Keith King
2 endeavored to make a positive difference in the area through his
3 involvement with a number of boards and organizations; he served as
4 president of the North Central Texas College Ex-Students and
5 Friends Association and as a board member of the college's
6 foundation, and he was a member of the board of VISTO, or Volunteers
7 in Service to Others; a former member of the Gainesville Downtown
8 Merchants and the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce, he had
9 additionally served as secretary of the local Optimist Club and as a
10 trustee for Whaley United Methodist Church; and

11 WHEREAS, In his leisure time, this dynamic Texan enjoyed
12 golfing, rooting for the Dallas Cowboys, and playing trombone for
13 the King-Austin Trio with his bandmates Marcus and Jane Austin; he
14 was fond of debating politics, and he had an extensive repertory of
15 lines that he would quote from his favorite movies; passionate
16 about photography as well, he particularly delighted in being
17 behind the camera when he was in the company of his five
18 grandchildren, Dane, Paytyn, Cole, Addy, and Keeley, whom he doted
19 on at every opportunity; and

20 WHEREAS, Keith King gave selflessly of his time and talents
21 to benefit the community he called home, and although he will long
22 be missed, indelible memories of his warmth and kindness will
23 remain to comfort those who loved and admired him; now, therefore,
24 be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
26 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Keith Grice King and
27 extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his son,

1 Grice King, and his wife, Nikki; to his mother, Margaret Jo King,
2 and her husband, Richard Stark; to his brothers, Bill King and his
3 wife, Latresa, and Karl King and his wife, Floy Jackson; to his
4 grandchildren, Dane, Paytyn, Cole, Addy, and Keeley King; and to
5 his other relatives and many 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 Keith Grice
9 King.