

By: Simpson

H.R. No. 1741

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and productive life drew to a close with the
2 passing of Mamie Strieber Shepperd of Gladewater on January 9,
3 2015, at the age of 97; and

4 WHEREAS, A lifelong Texan, the former Mamie Erna Strieber was
5 born in Yorktown on December 30, 1917, to Louis and Mamie Strieber;
6 she graduated as valedictorian of her class, and after attending
7 Our Lady of the Lake College, she transferred to The University of
8 Texas at Austin; while completing her bachelor's degree in
9 journalism, she met the love of her life, John Ben Shepperd, and
10 they married on October 6, 1938; and

11 WHEREAS, The couple settled in Gladewater, Mr. Shepperd's
12 hometown, until his appointment as Texas secretary of state in 1950
13 prompted their relocation to Austin; he was subsequently elected
14 state attorney general, and Mrs. Shepperd provided valuable
15 support for his endeavors while devoting herself to their four
16 children, John Ben, Marianne, Alfred, and Suzanne; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1957, the family moved to Odessa, and
18 Mrs. Shepperd became very engaged in politics, taking local and
19 state leadership roles in the Democratic Party; she was chair of the
20 Ladies for Lyndon West Texas committee during Lyndon Johnson's 1964
21 presidential campaign, and she accompanied Lady Bird Johnson on a
22 whistle-stop tour through eight southern states; moreover, she
23 joined forces with her husband to help establish The University of
24 Texas at Permian Basin and modernize the Texas Historical

1 Commission, and she gave generously of her time and talents to a
2 host of civic endeavors; she founded the Odessa Friendship
3 Investment Club, a women's group, and became a savvy investor; and

4 WHEREAS, The Shepperds spent much of their time on the family
5 ranch in Gladewater, and Mrs. Shepperd oversaw the restoration of
6 historic buildings on the property; following the death of her
7 husband in 1990, she made her home there, and she was a dedicated
8 steward of the land; she planted many acres of pine trees, and,
9 undaunted by the wildfires of 2011, she duly reforested the charred
10 ground; she was a member of the Gladewater Historical Museum and the
11 Lee Public Library, and she loved to read, play bridge, and follow
12 the stock market; and

13 WHEREAS, While the death of Mamie Shepperd brings great
14 sadness to her family and friends, she leaves behind a legacy that
15 will forever be treasured by all those who held her dear; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
18 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Mamie Strieber
19 Shepperd and extend sincere condolences to the members of her
20 family: to her children, Alfred Shepperd and his wife, Honey, and
21 Suzanne McIntosh and her husband, Gary; to her grandchildren, John
22 Shepperd, Kathryn Shepperd Martinez and her husband, Jake, Tina
23 Stansbury and her husband, Dan, Mari Parker and her husband, Scott,
24 Lara Frankovitch and her husband, Joe, Clint McCarver and his wife,
25 Ginna, Anne Hicks, Clint Morse and his wife, Diana, and Stephen
26 Morse and his wife, Grace; to her 20 great-grandchildren; and to her
27 many other relatives and friends; and, be it further

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1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
3 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Mamie
4 Strieber Shepperd.