

By: Koop

H.R. No. 2949

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the
2 passing of James Louis Halt of Dallas on April 6, 2015, at the age of
3 82; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Edna and Wallace Halt, Jim Halt was born
5 in Sparta, Illinois, on April 12, 1932; he served his country in the
6 United States Navy during the Korean War, and he subsequently took
7 advantage of the G.I. Bill to complete his bachelor's degree at
8 Southern Illinois University; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Halt moved to the Dallas area in the early
10 1960s, and in 1966 he married the former Beverly Sheffield; he
11 adopted her daughter, Sheryl, and three years later, the couple
12 were blessed with another daughter, Melissa; raising two girls
13 brought him great joy, and when he became the grandfather of Ashley,
14 Maggie, Adrienne, and Sam, he never missed an opportunity to spend
15 time with them; and

16 WHEREAS, With his warm, funny, and outgoing personality,
17 Mr. Halt was a natural salesman, and he embarked on a successful
18 career with Jostens, a recognition products company; he loved to
19 take good care of his customers, and his job was his favorite hobby;
20 in 1977, he was proud to land the Super Bowl ring order from the
21 Dallas Cowboys, but every account was special to him; and

22 WHEREAS, A man of deep faith, Mr. Halt was a valued member of
23 Highland Park Presbyterian Church, where he taught Sunday school
24 for nearly three decades and coached the boys' basketball team; his

1 ever-present grin and upbeat manner led his students to give him the
2 well-deserved nickname "Happy Jack"; in addition, he was a
3 dedicated volunteer at the Gardens of Richardson retirement
4 community, where he brightened social occasions with his sparkling
5 conversation and skill as a dance partner; when he was diagnosed
6 with Alzheimer's, he faced this challenge with characteristic
7 grace, and he continued to show his love for the people around him;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Jim Halt embraced life to the fullest, and memories
10 of the laughter, smiles, and stories he shared remain to gladden the
11 hearts of those he held dear; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Jim Halt and extend
14 sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his wife,
15 Beverly Halt; to his daughters, Sheryl Ofria and her husband, Ed,
16 and Melissa Youngblood and her husband, Keith; to his
17 granddaughters, Ashley, Maggie, and Adrienne Ofria; to his
18 grandson, Sam Youngblood; and to his other relatives and friends;
19 and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of James Louis
23 Halt.