

By: Burrows

H.R. No. 48

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family, friends, and colleagues will forever
2 treasure their memories of retired Lubbock firefighter Jay Wesley
3 Watson, who passed away on July 8, 2017, at the age of 54; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Lubbock on September 8, 1962, Jay Watson was
5 the son of K. Dencil and Kathryn Watson; a standout athlete at
6 Frenship High School, he went on to study at Texas Tech University,
7 and he remained a loyal supporter of his college alma mater
8 throughout his life; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1982, Mr. Watson was joined in matrimony to his
10 childhood sweetheart, Jana, and they went on to share a rewarding
11 marriage that spanned three and a half decades; over the years,
12 their family grew to include two daughters, Kristen and Meagan, and
13 three grandchildren, Carter, Tinsley, and Wesley; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Watson began his career with Lubbock Fire Rescue
15 in 1987; passionate about his work, he belonged to several local,
16 state, and international firefighter organizations, and he played a
17 key role in the department's Fill the Boot and Operation Warm: Coats
18 for Kids initiatives; and

19 WHEREAS, This accomplished professional served the Lubbock
20 community with distinction for nearly three decades until, in 2015,
21 a cancer diagnosis forced him to retire from the job he loved;
22 although he was initially given less than a year to live, he
23 survived well beyond that prediction, and he found great strength
24 and inspiration in his faith, in the support and affection of his

1 family, and in the camaraderie of the many friends and fellow first
2 responders who rallied around him; and

3 WHEREAS, Jay Watson was a devoted family man and a dedicated
4 firefighter, and although his life ended far too soon, he leaves
5 behind a record of service that his loved ones can remember with
6 pride; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
8 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory
9 of Jay Wesley Watson and extend heartfelt condolences to the
10 members of his family: to his wife, Jana Watson; to his children,
11 Kristen Andrus and her husband, David, and Meagan Watson; to his
12 grandchildren, Carter, Tinsley, and Wesley Andrus; to his
13 stepfather, Tommy Evans; to his brothers, Jimmy Watson and Mack
14 Evans, and his stepsister, Mickie Prado; and to his other relatives
15 and friends; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
18 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jay Watson.