

By: VanDeaver

H.R. No. 52

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life lived with joy and purpose came to an untimely
2 end with the passing of Jana Graves Kennedy of Paris on May 20,
3 2017, at the age of 54; and

4 WHEREAS, The former Jana Graves was born to Faye and James
5 Graves on August 14, 1962, in Paris, where she grew up with her
6 sister, Jeri, and her brother, Russell; a member of the North Lamar
7 High School Class of 1980, she earned a track scholarship to attend
8 Texas A&M University and went on to complete a bachelor's degree in
9 elementary education; possessed of a kind disposition and a genuine
10 love of children, she made a positive difference in the lives of
11 countless young Texans during her many years as an elementary
12 school teacher in Texarkana and Paris; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1985, she exchanged wedding vows with another
14 Paris native, Mike Kennedy, and after living in Texarkana for a
15 time, the couple returned to their hometown to be closer to their
16 families; over the years, they were blessed with three treasured
17 children, Kara, Cole, and Kyle; and

18 WHEREAS, A devout Christian, Ms. Kennedy exemplified the
19 ideals of her faith through her commitment to serving others; she
20 gave generously of her time and energy to the Angel Fund, a
21 Texarkana organization that provides support for cancer patients,
22 and she also volunteered with Watersprings Ranch, a charity
23 operating residential group homes for children in need; and

24 WHEREAS, Although Jana Kennedy is deeply missed, memories of

1 her beautiful smile and her warm and caring ways remain to comfort
2 and inspire all those who were privileged to share in the richness
3 of her life; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
5 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
6 Jana Graves Kennedy and extend heartfelt sympathy to her relatives
7 and many friends; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
10 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jana
11 Kennedy.