

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, A rich and purposeful life drew to a close with the  
2 death of U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander (Ret.) W. L. Crouch of  
3 Rockport on November 17, 2016, at the age of 91; and

4           WHEREAS, "Babe" Crouch was born in Wilson, Oklahoma, on  
5 September 25, 1925, to Leo and Audrey Crouch, and grew up in  
6 Kilgore; in 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and attended boot  
7 camp at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi; and

8           WHEREAS, Over the course of his 30 years in the navy,  
9 Mr. Crouch steadily worked his way up through the ranks and served  
10 all over the world, including the South Pacific, Japan, Korea, the  
11 Philippines, the Azores, and Cuba; in the early 1960s, as a  
12 production and quality control officer, he worked on the Lunar  
13 Excursion Module later used in the Apollo moon missions, and he  
14 participated in research on the Polaris nuclear missile; he  
15 subsequently served off the coast of Vietnam aboard the aircraft  
16 carrier USS *Yorktown*; and

17           WHEREAS, Mr. Crouch's many commendations included the World  
18 War II Victory Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, the  
19 American Campaign Medal, the Korean Service Medal, the United  
20 Nations Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Vietnam  
21 Service Medal, among many others; he retired from the navy at the  
22 rank of lieutenant commander in 1973; and

23           WHEREAS, That same year, Lieutenant Commander Crouch settled  
24 in Texas and joined the Navy League Sea Cadet Program, and he spent

1 the rest of his life training young cadets in basic seamanship,  
2 self-reliance, leadership, and discipline; he served as Sea Cadet  
3 National Vice President, Southwest Field Representative, and  
4 commanding officer of the training ship *Alamo*, among other  
5 positions; in 1998, he received the Superior Public Service Award  
6 from the secretary of the navy, and in 2004, he was named an admiral  
7 in the Texas Navy; and

8 WHEREAS, This distinguished officer married Lieutenant  
9 Commander Suzy Williams of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps in 2002; he  
10 took pride in a fine family that included his daughter, Cindy  
11 Crouch, and his stepdaughter, Roxanna Hott, as well as his wife's  
12 children and grandchildren; since his baptism in 2002, he had been  
13 an active member of First Baptist Church in Rockport; and

14 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Commander Crouch possessed the courage  
15 and initiative that defined the finest members of his generation,  
16 and his exemplary service to his country will forever inspire all  
17 who had the privilege to know him; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
19 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Lieutenant Commander  
20 W. L. Crouch and extend sincere condolences to his family and  
21 friends; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
23 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
24 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of W. L.  
25 Crouch.

Hunter  
Herrero  
Morrison  
Lozano

H.R. No. 231

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 231 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on February 23, 2017.

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Chief Clerk of the House