

By: Clardy

H.R. No. 296

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of Nacogdoches lost an admired civic leader  
2 with the death of Lucille Marie La Pointe DeWitt on October 9, 2015,  
3 at the age of 90; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Killingly, Connecticut, on October 8, 1925,  
5 the former Lucy La Pointe lived with the Colizzi family in  
6 Charlotte, Michigan, and worked as an au pair and soda jerk while  
7 completing high school; she later moved to New York City to pursue a  
8 career in acting and modeling; in 1948, she married Rich DeWitt, and  
9 they became the parents of five treasured children, Richard,  
10 Deborah, Candace, Cindy, and Jack; she eventually knew the joy of  
11 welcoming 12 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren into her  
12 family; and

13 WHEREAS, The DeWitts moved to Waxahachie and then settled in  
14 Nacogdoches in 1957 to assist with the family business, DeWitt  
15 Hatcheries; in 1964, the couple opened their first KFC franchise,  
16 and they eventually expanded to a total of 70 locations across the  
17 state; Mrs. DeWitt became president of the company following her  
18 husband's death in 2006, and with a remarkable work ethic, she  
19 remained active in the business into her late 80s; and

20 WHEREAS, Deeply committed to her community, Mrs. DeWitt  
21 played a key role in the establishment of the Nacogdoches County  
22 Republican Women, and she served as president of the organization;  
23 she was a founding member of the Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Pink  
24 Ladies and board president of the physical rehabilitation center

1 that the group helped develop; in addition, she was a member of the  
2 Samaritan Center board and a charter life member of the Nacogdoches  
3 Expo Center; she and her husband donated land to Stephen F. Austin  
4 State University for its nursing program, and in recognition of  
5 their support, the School of Nursing was named in their honor;  
6 moreover, Mrs. DeWitt sponsored Nacogdoches Crime Stoppers and  
7 donated funds for the restoration of a number of historic  
8 buildings; in 2006, she was inducted into the Stephen F. Austin  
9 Society, and among myriad accolades, she was named the 2008 Woman of  
10 the Year by the American Association of University Women; and

11 WHEREAS, Lucy DeWitt made a lasting, positive impact in her  
12 community through her exceptional generosity and dedication, and  
13 she will forever hold a special place in the hearts of all who were  
14 fortunate enough to know her; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
16 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Lucille DeWitt and  
17 extend sincere condolences to her loved ones; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
19 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
20 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Lucy  
21 DeWitt.