

By: King of Hemphill

H.R. No. 794

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the
2 death of Don Wyatt Rader of Canadian, Texas, on January 14, 2016, at
3 the age of 91; and

4 WHEREAS, Don Rader was born in Shattuck, Oklahoma, on June 1,
5 1924, to Ernest Justin and Bonnie Harris Rader; born into a ranching
6 family, he graduated from Shattuck High School in 1942 and enrolled
7 in Oklahoma State University; and

8 WHEREAS, Answering his nation's call to duty during World War
9 II, Mr. Rader interrupted his studies to enlist in the U.S. Army in
10 1943, and as a rifleman with K Company, 393rd Infantry, 99th
11 Infantry Division, he saw combat in Normandy, the Ardennes, and the
12 Rhineland; he was seriously wounded in March 1945 and earned a
13 Purple Heart; and

14 WHEREAS, After recuperating in the hospital at Fort Sam
15 Houston and returning to civilian life, Mr. Rader earned his
16 bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from OSU in May 1948;
17 that same month, he married Mary Esther Gerard, and the couple
18 returned to Shattuck, Oklahoma, to ranch; in 1960, they moved to
19 Lipscomb County, where Mr. Rader raised Polled Hereford cattle for
20 more than six decades; over the course of Mr. and Mrs. Rader's 68
21 years together, they were blessed with six children, Don, Steve,
22 Cathie, Judy, Nancy, and Betsy; many of their children and
23 grandchildren have carried on the family tradition of ranching and
24 farming in the Panhandle; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Rader was active in his community as a director
2 of the Lipscomb County Soil and Water Conservation District and as a
3 member of the Rotary Club; he was also a valued congregant of First
4 United Methodist Church of Canadian; and

5 WHEREAS, Devoted to his family, his community, and the proud
6 tradition of ranching, Don Rader leaves behind a legacy of hard
7 work, service to others, and a love for the land that will continue
8 to inspire all those who had the good fortune to know him; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Don Wyatt Rader and
12 extend sincere condolences to his relatives and many friends; and,
13 be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
16 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Don Rader.