

By: Darby

H.R. No. 859

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The city of San Angelo lost one of its most admired  
2 and influential community leaders with the passing of Frank M. Pool  
3 on January 12, 2017, at the age of 98; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Hill County, near Grandview, on August 29,  
5 1918, Frank Pool was the son of Francis Marion and Elizabeth Morrow  
6 Pool; he grew up in Waco, where he developed a strong work ethic  
7 from a young age, and he went on to receive a degree in petroleum  
8 engineering from Texas A&M University in 1941; while there, he was  
9 recognized as a distinguished student and served as a member of the  
10 Corps of Cadets; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Pool briefly worked for Humble Oil before being  
12 called to active duty in the U.S. Army during World War II; as a  
13 platoon leader in the First Armored Division, he fought against  
14 German forces in North Africa, and he was later deployed to Europe  
15 as a captain and company commander with responsibility for 400 men  
16 and 44 tanks; he and his troops saw heavy combat during the Allied  
17 advance on Germany, and for his valorous efforts, he was awarded the  
18 Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, and  
19 two Purple Hearts; and

20           WHEREAS, Mr. Pool met and began a whirlwind romance with the  
21 love of his life, the former Elizabeth Hughes, while he was  
22 temporarily in the United States between wartime deployments; the  
23 couple exchanged wedding vows on February 16, 1946, and enjoyed 66  
24 years of marriage before Mrs. Pool passed away; they were blessed

1 with three children, Frank, Mary Ellen, and Martha, and they took  
2 great pride in watching their family grow to include many  
3 grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1948, Mr. Pool and his wife moved to San Angelo,  
5 where he founded Pool Well Servicing Company; this marked the  
6 beginning of a long and prosperous career in the energy business,  
7 which showcased his engineering skill and considerable creativity  
8 as he sought new ways of exploring for oil and gas; his company  
9 eventually became a giant in the industry, with more than 1,000 rigs  
10 located in the United States and over 20 foreign countries; he  
11 served the firm as president from 1948 to 1978 and then as managing  
12 director and president emeritus until 1995, and he continued to act  
13 as an oil industry consultant into the 21st century; and

14 WHEREAS, A leader in his profession and his community,  
15 Mr. Pool contributed his time and expertise as a member of the  
16 Petroleum Engineering Industry Board at Texas A&M and served on the  
17 boards of San Angelo National Bank and Texas Commerce Bancshares,  
18 among numerous other businesses and organizations; he was a strong  
19 advocate for integration during his tenure as president of the San  
20 Angelo Board of Education from 1954 to 1959, and he also served on  
21 the State Board of Education; in recognition of his wide-ranging  
22 volunteer efforts, he was named San Angelo's Citizen of the Year in  
23 2007; and

24 WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to his faith, Mr. Pool was a longtime  
25 member of First Baptist Church, where he served as deacon and taught  
26 a Sunday school class; in his free time, he enjoyed playing golf,  
27 hunting, fishing, traveling, and cheering for the Aggies; more than

1 anything else, he treasured the time he spent with his family, and  
2 some of his happiest memories involved welcoming friends and loved  
3 ones to the beautiful mountain home that he and his wife shared in  
4 Lake City, Colorado, his favorite place on earth; and

5 WHEREAS, Frank Pool built a life that was extraordinarily  
6 rich in accomplishments and in meaningful service to others, and  
7 although he is deeply missed, he will always be remembered with the  
8 greatest respect and affection by all who had the good fortune to  
9 know him; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Frank M. Pool and  
12 extend sincere sympathy to all those who mourn his passing; and, be  
13 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 Frank Pool.