H.R. No. 1907

RESOLUTION

- 1 WHEREAS, Memories of a life well lived may help to comfort
- 2 those saddened by the passing of Cecil V. Young of Bowie on March
- 3 24, 2017, at the age of 97; and
- WHEREAS, "Cy" Young was born in Bowie on October 2, 1919;
- 5 following his graduation from Bowie High School, he attended
- 6 Abilene Christian University on the school's first full-ride
- 7 football and academic scholarship and received a bachelor's degree
- 8 in 1941; he worked as a coach at Saint Jo High School, but following
- 9 the attack on Pearl Harbor, he enlisted in the United States Navy;
- 10 and
- 11 WHEREAS, After completing boot camp in Virginia, Mr. Young
- 12 was sent to North Africa, where he was attached to the Allied Force
- 13 Headquarters in Algiers; promoted to the rank of lieutenant, he
- 14 returned stateside to complete additional training in New York and
- 15 California; he was then assigned to the USS Carteret, an attack
- 16 transport ship, as a boat officer and was deployed in January 1945
- 17 to the Pacific theater, where the Carteret landed troops and
- 18 equipment during the invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Putting the G.I. Bill to good use, Mr. Young
- 20 enrolled in graduate school at The University of Texas at Austin,
- 21 and he went on to complete a master's degree at the University of
- 22 North Texas in 1952; he resumed his career as a coach and teacher,
- 23 serving at schools in Highland Park, Dallas, Graham, and Decatur;
- 24 over the years, he distinguished himself as founder and president

- H.R. No. 1907
- 1 of the Bowie Educational Foundation, as president and legislative
- 2 chair of the Montague County Retired Teachers Association, and as
- 3 chair of the Texas High School Coaches Association, and he also
- 4 created what is thought to be the longest continuously running
- 5 track meet in the state, the Possum Kingdom Relays; and
- 6 WHEREAS, In 1991, this proud veteran established the Iwo Jima
- 7 Survivors Association of Texas, which hosted annual reunions for
- 8 those who fought in that epic battle; he recounted his war
- 9 experiences in the award-winning documentary Uncommon Valor: The
- 10 Battle of Iwo Jima; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Mr. Young and his first wife, the former Evelyn
- 12 Cohron, shared a rewarding marriage that spanned more than a
- 13 quarter century, before her passing in 1973; fortunate enough to
- 14 find love again, he was joined in matrimony to the former Estelle
- 15 Donald in 1981; he took immense pride in his three children, Randy,
- 16 Jan, and Kay, and his life was further enriched by his grandchildren
- 17 and great-grandchildren; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Cy Young was devoted to his family, his community,
- 19 and his nation, and he will forever hold a special place in the
- 20 hearts of all who had the privilege to know him; now, therefore, be
- 21 it
- 22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
- 23 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Cecil V. Young and
- 24 extend sincere condolences to all those who mourn his passing; and,
- 25 be it further
- 26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 27 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of

H.R. No. 1907

1 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Cy Young.

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H.R. No. 1907

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1907 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 12, 2017.

Chief Clerk of the House