

By: Wilson

H.R. No. 1954

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life distinguished by courageous service to his
2 nation has drawn to a close with the death of U.S. Army General
3 (Ret.) Harold Gregory Moore Jr. of Auburn, Alabama, on February 10,
4 2017, at the age of 94; and

5 WHEREAS, Hal Moore was born on February 13, 1922, in
6 Bardstown, Kentucky, to Harold and Mary Moore; after graduating
7 from the U.S. Military Academy in 1945, he served with the
8 occupation forces in Japan and then returned stateside to a posting
9 at Fort Bragg, where he met and married Julie Compton; the couple
10 became the proud parents of five children, Harold, Stephen, Julie,
11 Cecile, and David, and their family later grew to include 12
12 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren; Hal and Julie Moore shared
13 a deeply rewarding marriage of 54 years, until her passing in 2004;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, During the Korean War, General Moore commanded both
16 a heavy mortar company and an infantry company of the 7th Infantry
17 Division in combat and earned two Bronze Stars for valor; he
18 subsequently taught at West Point, worked at the Pentagon, and
19 served a tour of duty in Norway; in 1965, he deployed to Vietnam as
20 commander of 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division; he
21 and his men had been in-country only two months when, over the
22 course of three harrowing days in November, they defeated a vastly
23 superior enemy force at the Battle of Ia Drang; General Moore's
24 actions in that engagement earned him the Distinguished Service

1 Cross, the nation's second-highest award for valor; the following
2 year, while commanding the 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, he
3 earned a third Bronze Star with "V" device; and

4 WHEREAS, General Moore went on to help plan the American
5 withdrawal from Vietnam, rebuild the 7th Infantry Division, command
6 the Training Center and Fort Ord, and serve as Army Deputy Chief of
7 Staff for Personnel; he retired in 1977 at the rank of Lieutenant
8 General; in 1992, he coauthored a bestselling account of the battle
9 at Ia Drang, *We Were Soldiers Once . . . and Young*, which was filmed
10 as *We Were Soldiers* in 2002, with Mel Gibson playing General Moore;
11 in 2008, he coauthored a sequel, *We Are Soldiers Still: A Journey*
12 *Back to the Battlefields of Vietnam*; and

13 WHEREAS, In addition to the Distinguished Service Cross and
14 the Bronze Star, this highly decorated officer was the recipient of
15 the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with two
16 oak-leaf clusters, the Purple Heart, the Air Medal with one silver
17 and three bronze oak-leaf clusters, the Joint Service Commendation
18 Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal with two oak-leaf clusters;
19 he continued to reap honors after his retirement, among them the
20 Doughboy Award from the Chief of Infantry in 2000 and a
21 Distinguished Graduate Award from the West Point Association of
22 Graduates in 2003; and

23 WHEREAS, General Moore was a man of deep religious faith; he
24 also loved the outdoors, and he delighted in sharing his passion for
25 hiking, camping, skiing, and fishing with his family; his
26 grandchildren called him "Captain Fun" for his playfulness and
27 lively sense of humor; and

1 WHEREAS, A loving husband and father and an inspiring leader
2 who dedicated his life to the defense of our nation and to the
3 welfare of the troops under his command, Hal Moore leaves behind an
4 example of humility, grace, and dedication to duty that will
5 forever inspire all those who knew and loved him; now, therefore, be
6 it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
8 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Lieutenant General
9 Harold Gregory Moore Jr. and extend heartfelt sympathy to his
10 family and many friends; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
13 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Harold
14 Gregory Moore Jr.