

By: Price

H.R. No. 348

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas lost a trailblazing jurist with
2 the death of Mary Lou Robinson of Amarillo on January 26, 2019, at
3 the age of 92; and

4 WHEREAS, Born to Gerald and Frances Strueber in Dodge City,
5 Kansas, on August 25, 1926, the former Mary Lou Strueber grew up in
6 Amarillo; she met her future husband, A. J. Robinson, at The
7 University of Texas School of Law, and they established the
8 Robinson & Robinson firm in Amarillo; in 1955, Ms. Robinson was
9 appointed judge of the Potter County Court-at-Law, and she later
10 became judge of the 108th District Court and associate justice and
11 then chief justice of the 7th Court of Appeals; in 1979, she was
12 appointed by President Jimmy Carter as United States district judge
13 for the Northern District of Texas, a position she held for almost
14 four decades; and

15 WHEREAS, Judge Robinson was known for her fairness,
16 integrity, and meticulous application of the law; she ran her
17 courtroom with tremendous professionalism, and she dug deeply into
18 the issues of every case in order to understand all aspects; while
19 serving as a role model and mentor to other women in the legal
20 community, she also advocated powerfully for women's rights and the
21 passage of the Texas Equal Rights Amendment, and she helped to
22 effect change in laws that prohibited married women from entering
23 into binding contracts; in 2018, she became the first woman within a
24 five-state area to have a federal courthouse named in her honor; and

1 WHEREAS, The devoted mother of three children, Rebecca,
2 Diana, and Matthew, Judge Robinson taught them the importance of
3 family, hard work, honesty, and service; she eventually knew the
4 joy of becoming a proud grandmother and great-grandmother; deeply
5 committed to the community, she served on the boards of a host of
6 civic organizations, and she was an elder of Westminster
7 Presbyterian Church; and

8 WHEREAS, Mary Lou Robinson set an inspiring example as a
9 pioneer of the Texas judiciary and a pillar of the legal community
10 for over six decades, and she will be remembered with admiration and
11 affection by all who were fortunate enough to know her; now,
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Mary Lou Robinson and
15 extend sincere sympathy to the members of her family: to her
16 children, Rebecca McCoy and her husband, Mark, Diana Robinson and
17 her fiancé, Ed Hatchett, and Matthew Robinson and his wife, Mary; to
18 her grandchildren, Jeremy Gruhlkey and his wife, Naeun Rim, Bradley
19 Gruhlkey, Ashley Kelley and her husband, Taylor, Rachel Robinson
20 and Joel Lehtinen, Blake Elms and her husband, Gatlin, David Tubb
21 and his wife, Hayley, and Frances Tubb; to her
22 granddaughter-in-law, Elana Harvey; to her nine
23 great-grandchildren; and to her many other relatives and friends;
24 and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
27 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of the

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1 Honorable Mary Lou Robinson.