

By: Wray

H.R. No. 471

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of James Wesley Hightower of Waxahachie
2 on February 5, 2019, at the age of 92, has brought a great loss to
3 his family and friends; and

4 WHEREAS, James Hightower was born to Leo and Gladys Hightower
5 on November 6, 1926, in Waxahachie, where he grew up with the
6 companionship of a sister, Mildred; he graduated from Waxahachie
7 High School in 1945, and during his time there, he captained the
8 football team and distinguished himself as a Golden Gloves boxing
9 champion; although he was offered scholarships to both Texas
10 Christian University and Rice University, he put his education on
11 hold to serve in World War II as a member of the United States Army's
12 98th Field Artillery Battalion; after the war ended, he enrolled at
13 TCU and Baylor Law School; and

14 WHEREAS, On February 2, 1946, Mr. Hightower wed his high
15 school sweetheart, the former Jimylin Wise, and they went on to
16 share a marriage that spanned 72 years, before Mrs. Hightower's
17 passing in 2018; the couple were blessed with three children,
18 Laurie, Wesley, and Jamie, and over the years, Mr. Hightower took
19 pride in welcoming into his family seven grandchildren and seven
20 great-grandchildren; and

21 WHEREAS, An admired civic leader, Mr. Hightower served as
22 president of the Ellis County Rural Rail Transportation District,
23 the Waxahachie Foundation, and the Waxahachie Ex-Students'
24 Association, as well as the Chairman's Roundtable Division Leader

1 for the YMCA Youth Sponsorship Campaign from 1997 to 2000; he and
2 his wife were also members of Historic Waxahachie, Inc., and
3 Mr. Hightower was a certified Master Gardener; and

4 WHEREAS, Deeply committed to his family, his profession, and
5 his community, James Hightower leaves behind an exemplary record of
6 service, and he will forever hold a special place in the hearts of
7 all those who held him dear; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of James Wesley
10 Hightower and extend sincere sympathy to his loved ones; and, be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
14 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of James
15 Wesley Hightower.