

By: Parker

H.R. No. 2009

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, September 6, 2019, marks the 50th wedding
2 anniversary of Representative Tom Craddick and Nadine Craddick, and
3 this joyous event provides a fitting opportunity to reflect on
4 their remarkable journey together as husband and wife; and

5 WHEREAS, Tom Craddick and the former Nadine Nayfa met in the
6 library at Texas Tech University, where they both were students;
7 Tom earned his bachelor's degree in business and his MBA from Texas
8 Tech, and Nadine completed her bachelor's degree in education at
9 the university; in 1969, Nadine began teaching while Tom began his
10 first term in the Texas House, and as the pair looked forward to
11 their September wedding date, they found that the obligations of
12 the Texas Legislature can interfere with the best-laid plans; the
13 governor called two consecutive special sessions that summer, the
14 second of which didn't end until three days after their wedding
15 date, and although the ceremony proceeded, their honeymoon was
16 delayed; so began their rewarding marriage, and in the years that
17 followed, the Craddicks welcomed the arrival of two children,
18 Christi and Thomas, while working tirelessly together in behalf of
19 their community and the Lone Star State; and

20 WHEREAS, Representative Craddick made state history in 2003,
21 when he became the first Republican speaker of the House in over 130
22 years; he served in that role until 2009, and during his tenure, the
23 \$10 billion budget shortfall was transformed into a surplus of
24 equal size; moreover, the legislature passed landmark tort reform

1 and the largest property tax cut in state history; his commitment to
2 higher education has greatly benefited such institutions as Midland
3 College, The University of Texas Permian Basin, and the Texas Tech
4 University Health Sciences Center; in addition, he has helped
5 effect far-reaching developments in the areas of energy, health
6 care, mental health, transportation infrastructure, and the
7 prevention of distracted driving; he is also a respected member of
8 the business community as owner of Craddick Properties and
9 president of Craddick Incorporated and as a sales representative
10 for Anchor Drilling Fluids USA; and

11 WHEREAS, Mrs. Craddick has served Midland in a host of
12 leadership roles over the years, among them chair of the Midland
13 Chamber of Commerce and charter member of the Council Against
14 Substance Abuse and the Midland-Odessa Transportation Alliance
15 board; furthermore, she helped found Midland County Families in
16 Action and was a member of the Midland Hotel/Motel Tax Advisory
17 Board; at the state level, she served on the Governor's Commission
18 for Women and as First Lady of the Texas House, she raised private
19 funds for the renovation of the Speaker's Apartment and Members
20 Lounge and oversaw the project; the Texas Historical Commission
21 recognized her efforts with the prestigious Chairman's Award; a
22 sustaining member of the Republican Women's Club, she has been very
23 active in the party, serving as a state delegate since 1971; she is
24 employed as vice president and secretary of Craddick Incorporated;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, Widely admired for their philanthropy, the
27 Craddicks have established the Tom and Nadine Craddick Presidential

1 Scholarship Endowment at Texas Tech, the Nadine and Tom Craddick
2 Distinguished Chair in Medical Science at The University of Texas
3 Southwestern Medical Center, and the Nadine Craddick Endowment Fund
4 at Midland Memorial Hospital; active in their faith community as
5 well, they have received papal recognition as members of the
6 Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem; and

7 WHEREAS, Through the years, the Craddicks have been blessed
8 with three grandchildren, Thomas, Claire, and Catherine; the couple
9 enjoy spending time with their cherished family at their Horseshoe
10 Bay retreat, and they love to travel, expand their knowledge, and
11 explore their love of art; and

12 WHEREAS, The half century of marriage that Tom and Nadine
13 Craddick have shared is eloquent affirmation of the meaning of
14 love, and the strength of their union and of their commitment to the
15 greater good is an inspiration to all who know them; now, therefore,
16 be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
18 Legislature hereby congratulate Tom and Nadine Craddick on their
19 50th wedding anniversary and extend to them sincere best wishes for
20 continued happiness; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for the Craddicks as an expression of high regard by the
23 Texas House of Representatives.