

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 140

In Memory
of
Thomas E. Creek

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is proud to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Thomas E. Creek, who died in the line of duty on February 13, 1969, while serving the nation in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Creek was born April 7, 1950, in Joplin, Missouri; he grew up in Amarillo and graduated from Palo Duro High School, where he was a member of the band; and

WHEREAS, He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on January 16, 1968, and completed his basic training at Camp Pendleton; he was transferred to Vietnam and was serving as a fire team leader with the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, 3rd Marine Division when he valiantly gave his life in service to his country; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Creek's unit came under heavy enemy fire near the resettlement village of Cam Lo; while moving to a position from which he could better return fire, he was seriously wounded and fell into a gully alongside several of his fellow Marines; when an enemy grenade fell in their midst, Lance Corporal Creek, without a thought for his own safety, rolled onto the grenade and absorbed the blast, courageously saving the lives of five Marines; and

WHEREAS, He was awarded the nation's highest accolade, the Medal of Honor, for his heroism, and he is Amarillo's only recipient and the youngest Texan to ever be awarded the medal; his other medals include the Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze stars; it is truly fitting that he be posthumously honored by the Texas Senate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the life and indomitable spirit of Thomas E. Creek; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of his heroic service.

Seliger

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 7, 2019, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate