87R26175 BHH-D

By:  Murr H.R. No. 1160

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, All who shared in the life of Wanda Smith Center of Cherokee were deeply saddened by her passing on March 3, 2021, at the age of 70; and

WHEREAS, Born on July 31, 1950, in San Antonio, the former Wanda Smith was the daughter of TJ and Loraine Smith, and she grew up in Pearsall with the companionship of her three siblings, Tommy, Steve, and Leanne; as a teenager, she moved with her family to Eagle Lake, and she graduated from Eagle Lake High School in 1968 before going on to attend Graceland College in Iowa; and

WHEREAS, In 1969, she was joined in matrimony to Samuel Center, and the couple shared a fulfilling union that spanned more than half a century; Ms. Center took great pride in her two children, Brian and Leslie, and with the passing years, she had the pleasure of seeing her family grow to include five grandchildren, Riley, who preceded her in death, Mckinley, Gracyn, Kirby, and Samantha; and

WHEREAS, Early in her marriage, Ms. Center worked for the Eagle Lake Insurance Agency and as a night dispatcher for the City of Eagle Lake Police Department; in 1982, she and her husband purchased the Snack Center, where she provided delicious meals to members of the community for many years; in addition, she was a librarian at the Eula and David Wintermann Library for five years, and she ultimately retired in 2004, after a decade as a purchaser with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and the Texas Youth Commission; and

WHEREAS, Above all else, Ms. Center was devoted to her family, and she enjoyed spending time with her husband and granddaughters, traveling with friends, hunting, and fishing; she was also an avid quilter and made more than 100 quilts for her loved ones; a woman of strong faith, she was a valued congregant of the First Baptist Church of Cherokee, where she could often be found in the nursery, singing in the choir, or lending a helping hand; and

WHEREAS, Wanda Center lived a full and generous life, and those who held her dear will forever remember her with deep admiration and affection; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Wanda Smith Center and extend sincere condolences to all who mourn her passing; and, be it further

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