

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 24

In Memory  
of  
Wayne A. Smith

**WHEREAS,** The citizens of Gladewater lost a beloved first responder and civic leader with the passing of former fire chief Wayne A. Smith on December 30, 2020, at the age of 65; and

**WHEREAS,** Fondly known as "Snuffy" to his friends and loved ones, Wayne Smith was born in Gilmer on January 16, 1955, to Herbert and Alice Smith, and he grew up with the companionship of five siblings, Brenda, Beverly, Jerry, John, and Roger; after graduating from Gladewater High School in 1973, he went on to earn his associate degree in applied science from Kilgore College; and

**WHEREAS,** Chief Smith led the Gladewater Fire Department for more than 27 years, and his dedication and expertise were respected throughout the city and beyond; an accomplished figure in his profession, he was a Master Firefighter and an instructor for the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service Fire Training Academy and the Texas Municipal Fire School; furthermore, he was president of the Local Emergency Planning Committee, safety officer at the Northeast Texas Eastman Fire School, and president of the Kilgore College Fire Academy Board; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition to his professional service, Chief Smith was active in a number of other community groups and initiatives; he was a prominent member of the Lions Club, where he served as president in 2012, and he played an integral role in establishing the Fall Festival Halloween activities; in

recognition of his contributions, he was named the 2010 Man of the Year by the Gladewater Chamber of Commerce; and

**WHEREAS**, In all his endeavors, Chief Smith enjoyed the love and support of his wife, Cathy, with whom he shared a rewarding marriage that spanned more than four decades; he took great pride in his two sons, Randy and Brian, and with the passing years, he had the pleasure of seeing his family grow to include a daughter-in-law, Chantel, and four grandchildren, Audrey, Christina, Kyler, and Chance; and

**WHEREAS**, Known for his leadership and integrity, as well as his friendliness and delightful sense of humor, Wayne Smith devoted himself to protecting his fellow citizens and improving his community, and he leaves behind a record of service that his loved ones can remember with pride; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the life of Chief Wayne A. Smith and extend sincere sympathy to all who mourn his passing; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Chief Smith.

Hughes

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 9, 2021, by a rising vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate