

By: Hughes

S.R. No. 29

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, All who shared in the life of Joann Smith of Gilmer
2 were deeply saddened by her passing on June 13, 2023, at the age of
3 78; and

4 WHEREAS, Affectionately known as "Mama J," Joann Smith was
5 born in Dandridge, Tennessee, on August 23, 1944, to Joe and Gladys
6 Haynes, and she grew up in Knoxville with the companionship of five
7 siblings, Eula Mae, Dorothy, Louise, Jim, and Larry; she worked as a
8 lithographic stripper from 1965 to 1993 before moving to Gilmer;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith shared a rewarding marriage with her
11 husband, James Smith, that spanned 18 years until his passing in
12 2020, and her cherished family also included her stepchildren,
13 E. J., Kelli, and Krystal, as well as her 16 grandchildren; a woman
14 of strong faith, she was an active member of Glade Creek Baptist
15 Church, where she led worship for two decades; she enjoyed reading,
16 traveling, and dancing, as well as spending time with her loved
17 ones, taking care of her many animals, and supporting her grandkids
18 in their various endeavors; and

19 WHEREAS, Although Joann Smith is greatly missed, those who
20 held her dear will forever remember the warmth and kindness she
21 brought into their lives; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature, 4th
23 Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Joann "Mama J"
24 Smith and extend heartfelt sympathy to the members of her family: to

1 her sister, Louise Dunn, and her husband, Leroy; to her brother,
2 Larry Davis, and his wife, Anita; to her godson, Chris Partain, and
3 his wife, Tiffany; to her goddaughter, Angela Partain; to her
4 stepchildren, E. J. Smith and his wife, Shelly, Kelli Bean and her
5 husband, Jeff, and Krystal Smith and her husband, Jason; to her
6 grandchildren; and to her other relatives and many friends; and, be
7 it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for her family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this
10 day, it do so in memory of Joann Smith.