

By: Hughes

S.R. No. 52

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A rich and purposeful life drew to a close with the  
2 passing of Joel Dean Johnson of Longview on March 24, 2025, at the  
3 age of 88; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Everett Rufus Johnson and Mary Lou Baker  
5 Johnson, Joel Johnson was born in Teaselville, near Tyler, on  
6 September 28, 1936; he grew up with four siblings, Shirley, Rita,  
7 Kent, and Marsha; in the 1960s, he served in the Navy Reserve,  
8 training aboard the USS *Willett*; he began working in the retail shoe  
9 business at an early age, and he eventually owned 13 shoe stores in  
10 partnership with Regan's Smart Fashions; after some two decades, he  
11 joined the Genesco Shoe Corporation, selling shoes to major and  
12 independent department stores across the South; he later served as  
13 a business consultant and helped many entrepreneurs get their start  
14 through the small-business program at Kilgore College, where he  
15 also taught marketing courses; and

16 WHEREAS, A gifted musician, Mr. Johnson taught himself  
17 guitar and piano, and as a singer-songwriter, he released several  
18 records on his own label, Camille Records; local radio stations  
19 gave regular airplay to his tracks, such as "Teaselville," "Sue Why  
20 Don't You Love Me," and "Twenty-Four Windows"; he also assisted  
21 several area country artists as a producer and promoter; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson was a man of many talents and took  
23 pleasure in exploring new interests; he became a sketch artist and  
24 painter, and he authored a number of books, among them *The American*

1 *Dream Is Success in a Business of Your Own* and *The Power of*  
2 *Self-Imaging*; in addition, he was deeply involved in community  
3 service as a member of the Rotary Club of Longview, Ambucs, Longview  
4 Youth Mentorship, and various charitable organizations; and

5 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Johnson enjoyed the love  
6 and support of his wife of 67 years, Camille Louise Johnson, until  
7 her passing in 2023; they were blessed with four children, George,  
8 Pamela, John, and Stacy, and the family later grew to include nine  
9 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and

10 WHEREAS, Although Joel Johnson is deeply missed, he has left  
11 his loved ones with a wealth of memories that they will forever  
12 treasure; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature, 1st  
14 Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of Joel Dean Johnson  
15 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his  
16 children, George Everett Ricky Johnson and his wife, Donna, Pamela  
17 Sue Johnson Woolley, John Randall Johnson and his wife, Sheryl, and  
18 Stacy Adell Johnson Patterson and her husband, Royce; to his  
19 grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and to his other relatives  
20 and friends; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
22 prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this  
23 day, it do so in memory of Joel Johnson.