

House Resolution 186

By: Representative Powell of the 32nd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Brigadier General Eugene Phillips; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
3 with the passing of Brigadier General Eugene Phillips on December 25, 2014; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Brigadier General Phillips was born on November 26, 1917, in Canon, Georgia,
5 a beloved son of M.D. and Minnie Phillips; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he was a valued member of the Sandy Cross community, and his love of that
7 community endured throughout his entire life; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he graduated from Royston High School in 1935 as class valedictorian before
9 attending the University of Georgia, where he earned his bachelor's degree in journalism; and
- 10 WHEREAS, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant to the Calvary United States Army
11 in 1939, and he served on active duty during World War II; and
- 12 WHEREAS, he served for 18 months of combat with the Third Infantry Division in North
13 Africa, Sicily, Italy, and Europe and also served on the staffs of General Eisenhower, General
14 Bradley, and General Patton, to whom he was an aide; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Brigadier General Phillips served as an information officer at the Nuremburg
16 War Crimes Trials and with the State Department in Burma after World War II; and
- 17 WHEREAS, he was promoted to brigadier general in 1968, serving the Office of the Chief
18 of Information for the Army; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Brigadier General Phillips retired from the military in 1973 with many awards,
20 including the Legion of Merit and the French Croix de Guerre; and

21 WHEREAS, he worked for the *Atlanta Journal*, the *Milwaukee Journal*, the Associated
22 Press, and the public relations department of Delta Air Lines, and he was the director of the
23 Washington, D.C., office of Aerospace Corporation before he opened his own consulting
24 firm; and

25 WHEREAS, Brigadier General Phillips returned to Royston, Georgia, in 1983, and from
26 1990-1992, he served as Royston's first city manager, launching the city into a more modern
27 way of government; and

28 WHEREAS, he was a member of Rotary, the local chamber of commerce, Franklin County
29 Historical Society, Sandy Cross Community Center Board, Franklin County and Royston
30 Public Library Board of Directors, American Legion, Reserve Officers Association, Military
31 Order of World Wars, and the Public Relations Society of America; and

32 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Brigadier General Phillips was an active
33 member of Zidon Baptist Church, and in 2009, the church recognized him for 76 years of
34 continuous membership; and

35 WHEREAS, Brigadier General Phillips was united in love and marriage to Nadine Barnts
36 in 1941, and the happy couple was blessed with 64 years of marriage before Nadine passed
37 away in 2006; and

38 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern
39 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his
40 family and friends were admired by others; and

41 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
42 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he made of his life, he
43 made this world a better place in which to live; and

44 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Brigadier General Eugene Phillips will
45 long be remembered for his love of family and friendship, and this outstanding man can truly
46 be said to personify the phrase "an officer and a gentleman."

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
48 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Brigadier General Eugene
49 Phillips and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
51 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
52 family of Brigadier General Eugene Phillips.