

House Resolution 912

By: Representatives Rogers of the 29th, Hawkins of the 27th, and Barr of the 103rd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Douglas Eugene Smith; 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 Douglas Eugene Smith on March 20, 2015; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was born on March 7, 1937, in Gainesville, Georgia, a beloved son
5 of Emerson E. "Fat" Smith and Mildred Howington Smith; and
- 6 WHEREAS, after graduating from Gainesville High School in 1955, he attended Oxford
7 College of Emory University and the University of Georgia, where he received a Juris Doctor
8 degree; and
- 9 WHEREAS, while at the University of Georgia, he was a member of the Sigma Alpha
10 Epsilon fraternity and the Phi Alpha Delta Law fraternity; and
- 11 WHEREAS, he began practicing law in Gainesville in 1960 with Ernest Smith, Jr., and they
12 later formed a law partnership, Smith and Smith; and
- 13 WHEREAS, he volunteered after college as a Scoutmaster of BSA Troop 189 in Gainesville,
14 Georgia; he was also an officer in the Georgia National Guard, and was called to amass with
15 other National Guard Troops in Miami, Florida, in 1962 in preparation for a possible
16 invasion of Cuba; and
- 17 WHEREAS, he practiced law for over 35 years in Gainesville and was elected for two
18 consecutive terms as Solicitor, State Court of Hall County; he later served as president of the
19 Georgia Trial Lawyers Association; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was united in love and marriage to Virginia Paris Smith, and was
21 blessed with three remarkable children, Sally, Sandy, and Doug, and five wonderful
22 grandchildren, Will, Adrienne, Emerson, Sara, and Farran; and

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

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

29 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. Smith will long be remembered for his
30 love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father, and friend will be missed by all
31 who had the great fortune of knowing him.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
33 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Douglas Eugene Smith and
34 express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
37 family of Douglas Eugene Smith.