

ENROLLED SENATE  
RESOLUTION NO. 56

By: Ford and Pruitt

A Resolution commending the Link Family for their patriotic activities; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, in 1972 Floral Haven Memorial Gardens Cemetery and Floral Haven Funeral Home in Tulsa, Oklahoma, began an annual tradition of raising the casket flags of deceased veterans over Memorial Day weekend. The flags are donated by deceased veterans' families to be flown on flagpoles along the roadways throughout the cemetery. This year on Memorial Day weekend more than 1,800 flags will be flown on what has become known as the "Avenue of Flags"; and

WHEREAS, in 1973, Dick and Joan Link, the owners and operators of Floral Haven, learned that Oklahoma was not represented by a Medal of Honor Obelisk in the Medal of Honor Grove located in Valley Forge National Historical Park in Pennsylvania. After a two-year campaign, the Links were successful as the Oklahoma Obelisk in the Medal of Honor Grove was dedicated; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Floral Haven's Shrine of Freedom was dedicated. This Veterans' Shrine honors Oklahoma's 18 Congressional Medal of Honor recipients; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Floral Haven dedicated a tower called the "Veteran's Memorial Carillon". This monument honors American Prisoners of War (POWs); and

WHEREAS, directed by the leadership of Richard L. Link, and his wife, Joan Link, owners of Floral Haven Memorial Gardens Cemetery and Floral Haven Funeral Home, the annual Memorial Day service has been recognized as one of our nation's most poignant veteran remembrances. Thousands have attended this event which honors our state's and nation's fallen heroes. There are ceremonies throughout the weekend to honor and pay special respect to our departed veterans; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Link have established an annual scholarship for the outstanding Senior Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) cadet in each of the area's nine high schools. Both ROTC cadets and Scouts participate in the Memorial Day weekend-long event.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 47TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends the Link Family for their patriotic activities.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Richard L. Link; Joan Link; Norman A. Lamb, Cabinet Secretary for Veterans Affairs; and Colonel Jim Gill, USMC, Ret.

Adopted by the Senate the 26th day of April, 2000.

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President of the Senate