ENROLLED HOUSE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1073

By: Piatt, Adkins, Armes, Askins, Auffet, Balkman, Banz, Benge, Billy, Bingman, Blackburn, Blackwell, Braddock, Brannon, Brown, Calvey, Carey, Cargill, Case, Coody, Cooksey, Covey, Cox, Dank, Denney, DePue, Deutschendorf, DeWitt, Dorman, Duncan, Eddins, Ellis, Gilbert, Glenn, Hamilton, Harrison, Hastings, Hickman, Hiett, Hilliard, Hyman, Ingmire, Jackson, Jett, Johnson, Jones, Kern, Kiesel, Lamons, Liebmann, Lindley, Liotta, Martin, Mass, McCarter, McDaniel, McMullen, McPeak, Miller (Doug), Miller (Ken), Miller (Ray), Morgan (Danny), Morgan (Fred), Morrissette, Nance, Nations, Newport, Perry, Peters, Peterson (Pam), Peterson (Ron), Plunk, Pruett, Reynolds, Richardson, Roan, Roggow, Rousselot, Shelton, Sherrer, Shoemake, Shumate, Smaligo, Smithson, Staggs, Steele, Sullivan, Sweeden, Terrill, Thompson, Tibbs, Toure, Trebilcock, Turner, Walker, Wesselhoft, Wilt, Winchester, Worthen, Wright and Young of the House

and

Crutchfield, Adelson, Aldridge, Anderson, Barrington, Bass, Branan, Brogdon, Cain, Capps, Coates, Coffee, Corn, Crain, Easley, Eason McIntyre, Fisher, Ford, Garrison, Gumm, Harrison, Hobson, Johnson (Constance), Johnson (Mike), Jolley, Justice, Lamb, Laster, Laughlin, Lawler, Leftwich, Lerblance, Mazzei, Morgan, Myers, Nichols, Paddack, Pruitt, Rabon, Reynolds, Riley, Schulz, Shurden, Taylor, Wilcoxson, Williamson, Wilson and Wyrick of the Senate

A Concurrent Resolution commending the life of Enoch Watterson; designating circle drive; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Enoch Watterson was drafted on March 25, 1944, and was assigned to the U.S. Marine Corps at the age of 18 and after

completing boot camp and basic training in June 1944, he was assigned to Fox Company, 4th Marine Regiment and was stationed on Maui Island in the Hawaiian Islands group which was his home for several months; and

WHEREAS, Enoch Watterson's unit invaded Iwo Jima on February 19, 1945, and immediately was involved in several battles, with both sides suffering heavy casualties. Most of his regimental officers were lost the first day, and as a result, the unit was without officer personnel for several weeks. He had only two NCOs in his second platoon, and at this time, Watterson was assigned to the assault squad as flame thrower operator. Part of their assignment required him to burn out the many caves used by the enemy. Corporal Watterson was injured on March 9, 1945, when his flame thrower blew up causing permanent eye injuries; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Watterson was honored for his heroic service by being awarded the Bronze Star for Valor. The award was presented by Major General Clifton B. Cates, Commanding General of the Fourth Marine Division. The citation was written by Sergeant Jack C. Smith, Marine Corps Combat Correspondent. And the citation reads: "For single-handedly attacking and killing enemy troops firing on Marines from three caves in the battle of Iwo Jima, Corporal Enoch C. Watterson, 19, and son of Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Watterson of Ardmore, Oklahoma, has been awarded the Bronze Star for Valor"; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Watterson, his courage and conduct throughout were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service, was discharged on February 3, 1946, completing one year, ten months, and nine days of service. His awards include the Bronze Star for Valor, Presidential Citation, World War II Victory Medal, American Theater Ribbon, Expert Rifleman Badge, and Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon and one Battle Star; and

WHEREAS, Enoch Watterson was honored by the Oklahoma Veterans Center, Ardmore Division by being named the 2003 Co-volunteer of the Year. Enoch Watterson spent many hours at the Veterans Center and most days at lunch, Enoch could be found in the dining room with a table full of veteran residents. Enoch would wait on these veterans' every need and make sure each of them made it back to their unit after lunch. Enoch always had a smile, a handshake, and a few words of encouragement for every resident throughout the Center. Mr. Enoch Watterson was a true friend of the Veterans Center and he is truly missed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 50TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature hereby commends the life and service of Enoch Watterson to the State of Oklahoma.

THAT the circle drive leading to the front of the Oklahoma Veterans Center, Ardmore Division shall be forever known as the "Enoch Watterson Circle".

THAT copies of this resolution be dispatched to the Oklahoma Veterans Center, Ardmore Division and to the family of Enoch Watterson.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 18th day of May, 2006.

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Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

Adopted by the Senate the 24th day of May, 2006.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate