

By: The Entire Membership

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 9

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE OF NOVELIST, HISTORIAN AND
2 MISSISSIPPIAN, SHELBY FOOTE, AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO
3 HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, novelist, historian and Mississippi native, Shelby
5 Foote, whose Southern storyteller's touch inspired millions to
6 read his multi-volume work on the Civil War, departed this earthly
7 life on Monday, June 27, 2005, to enter into eternal rest with his
8 heavenly father, causing great sorrow and loss to his family and
9 friends; and

10 WHEREAS, Foote, a longtime Memphis resident, wrote six novels
11 but is best remembered for his three-volume, 3,000-page history of
12 the Civil War and for his appearance on the PBS series, "The Civil
13 War"; and

14 WHEREAS, born November 7, 1916, in Greenville, Mississippi,
15 Foote attended the University of North Carolina for two years and
16 served in World War II as an Army captain of artillery, and upon
17 being discharged from the Army, joined the Marines; and

18 WHEREAS, early in his career, Foote took up the habit of
19 writing by hand with an old-fashioned dipped pen, and he continued
20 that practice throughout his life, keeping bound volumes of his
21 manuscripts on a bookshelf in a homey bedroom-study overlooking a
22 small garden at his Memphis residence; and

23 WHEREAS, the author of such novels as "Tournament," "Follow
24 Me Down," "Love in a Dry Season," "Shiloh," "Jordan County" and
25 "September, September," Foote's "The Civil War: A Narrative"
26 ranked as No. 15 on the Modern Library's list of the century's 100
27 best English-language works of nonfiction in 1999; and

28 WHEREAS, an epitome of literary success, Foote garnered rave
29 reviews from literary critics and the praise of fellow novelists
30 and readers alike for his widely acclaimed novels and manuscripts;
31 and

32 WHEREAS, the life and legacy of Mr. Foote will continue to
33 thrive in the hearts and fond memories of his followers,
34 supporters, colleagues and his loved ones, including wife of 49
35 years, Gwyn Foote; children, Margaret Shelby and Huger Lee; and a
36 host of other relatives and friends; and

37 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
38 recognize and pay tribute to such a monumental literary icon and
39 Mississippi native as Mr. Foote, whose life and works brought
40 great honor and pride to himself and his home state:

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
42 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
43 commend the life of novelist, historian and native Mississippian,
44 Shelby Foote, and express deepest sympathy to his family and
45 friends upon his passing.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
47 furnished to the family of Mr. Shelby Foote and to the members of
48 the Capitol Press Corps.