

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 37

Honoring the life of Richard Arvin Overton.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 11, 2019

Mr. WILLIAMS (for himself, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. FLORES, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. ROY, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. BRADY, Mr. MCCAUL, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. OLSON, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. VELA, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. CUELLAR, and Ms. JACKSON LEE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

RESOLUTION

Honoring the life of Richard Arvin Overton.

Whereas, on May 11, 1906, Richard Arvin Overton was born to Gentry Overton, Sr., and Elizabeth “Lizzie” Overton in Bastrop County, Texas;

Whereas, in 1940, Richard Arvin Overton enlisted in the United States Army and began his military service at Fort Sam Houston, Texas;

Whereas, from 1942 to 1945, Richard Arvin Overton bravely served in the Pacific Theater, including stops in Guam, Palau, and Iwo Jima, with the 1887th Engineer Aviation

Battalion, an all African-American unit, until the conclusion of World War II;

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton attained the rank of corporal in the United States Army;

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton earned the Combat Infantry Badge, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Army Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and the Expert Rifle Marksmanship Badge;

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton returned to Austin, Texas, following the conclusion of World War II, and resided there until his death on December 27, 2018;

Whereas, on November 11, 2013, Richard Arvin Overton was honored by former President Barack Obama at Arlington National Cemetery for his courage and commitment to service in combat zones such as Pearl Harbor, the Marshall Islands, Guam, Palau, and Iwo Jima;

Whereas, on January 3, 2015, Richard Arvin Overton represented the Greatest Generation at the 2015 United States Army All-American Bowl, which was held in San Antonio, Texas;

Whereas, on May 3, 2016, Richard Arvin Overton became the oldest surviving American veteran following the death of Frank Levingston, a fellow World War II veteran;

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton became a supercentenarian on May 11, 2016;

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton's birthday, May 11, is officially designated as "Richard Overton Day" in Austin, Texas;

Whereas, in 2017, the city of Austin, Texas, officially re-named the street where Richard Arvin Overton resided to “Richard Overton Avenue”;

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton shall be laid to rest with full military honors at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin, Texas; and

Whereas Richard Arvin Overton is an American hero who exemplified strength, sacrifice, and service to the United States of America: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) extends its heartfelt sympathies to the fam-
3 ily of Richard Arvin Overton;

4 (2) honors the life of Richard Arvin Overton
5 and his service to the United States of America;

6 (3) honors and, on behalf of the United States,
7 expresses deep appreciation for the outstanding and
8 important service of Richard Arvin Overton to his
9 country; and

10 (4) respectfully requests that the Clerk of the
11 House communicate this resolution to the Senate
12 and transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to
13 the family of Richard Arvin Overton.

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