

1 HJR5
2 197326-2
3 By Representative Wood (R)
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 05-MAR-19

1
2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
3 COMMENDING WT2C EDGAR DAVID GROSS FOR HIS MILITARY
4 SERVICE.

5
6 WHEREAS, highest commendations are herein proudly
7 presented to WT2c Edgar David Gross for his extraordinary
8 military service; and

9 WHEREAS, WT2c Edgar David Gross was born on October
10 25, 1901, in Athens, Alabama, to George and Susan Gross; he
11 was the youngest of ten children; and

12 WHEREAS, WT2c Edgar David Gross was married to the
13 late Anne Pearl Marbut Gross; they resided in the Elkmont
14 community in Athens, Alabama; and

15 WHEREAS, he was a Water Tender 2nd Class in the US
16 Naval Reserve, serving aboard the USS Oklahoma BB-37; he
17 served a total of 16 years in the Navy before he was killed
18 during the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on
19 December 7, 1941; his cause of death was stated as "Killed in
20 Action", and his manner of death is certified as homicide; a
21 total of 429 sailors and Marines on the Oklahoma were killed;
22 32 sailors and Marines were rescued; and

23 WHEREAS, between December 9, 1941, and June 27,
24 1944, Navy personnel recovered various remains of the deceased

1 crewmen; the recovered remains were interred into two
2 cemeteries in Hawaii, and they were listed as unknowns; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2011, WT2c Edgar David Gross' family
4 members, Stephen W. Gross, Carolyn C. Warren, and Emily C.
5 McDonald, submitted DNA for analysis in the hopes of
6 identifying his remains; and

7 WHEREAS, as a result of advances in forensic and
8 scientific analytical capabilities, the POW/MIA Accounting
9 Command successfully identified the remains of WT2c Edgar
10 David Gross; Stephen W. Gross was informed of the news on
11 September 7, 2018; WT2c Edgar D. Gross' remains were
12 officially recorded as identified on November 3, 2018; and

13 WHEREAS, on Memorial Day, May 27, 2019, a full
14 military funeral honoring WT2c Edgar David Gross will be held
15 at Cherry Grove Baptist Church in Athens, Alabama, followed by
16 the burial of his remains in the family cemetery, Evans
17 Cemetery; and

18 WHEREAS, although he is greatly missed, WT2c Edgar
19 David Gross has earned widespread admiration and respect for
20 the time he served in the Navy, and he is cherished in the
21 hearts of many; he is truly deserving of special recognition
22 and praise; now therefore,

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
24 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That WT2c Edgar David Gross is

1 highly honored and commended, and this resolution is offered
2 to his family with deepest admiration.

