

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 57

Recognizing and honoring Dale Earnhardt and expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives to his family on his death.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2001

Mr. HAYES (for himself, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Mr. COBLE, Mr. BALLINGER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. CASTLE, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. RILEY, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. MICA, Mr. HOYER, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. FOLEY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. THOMAS, and Mr. GOODLATTE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

FEBRUARY 27, 2001

The Committee on Government Reform discharged; considered under suspension of the rules and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Recognizing and honoring Dale Earnhardt and expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives to his family on his death.

Whereas Ralph Dale Earnhardt was born in Kannapolis, North Carolina, on April 29, 1951;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt was the son of Martha and the late Ralph Earnhardt and brother of Danny Earnhardt, Randy Earnhardt, Kaye Snipes, and Cathy Watkins;

Whereas his father, Ralph Earnhardt, a pioneer of the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR), introduced Dale Earnhardt to the sport, and Dale began racing Hobby-class cars in and around Kannapolis, working full-time welding and mounting tires during the day and either racing or working on his cars at night;

Whereas, upon the death of his father in 1973, Dale Earnhardt followed in his footsteps, becoming a professional race car driver;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt made his Winston Cup debut in 1975 and was named Rookie of the Year in 1979, his first full season of racing;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt earned his first Winston Cup Championship in 1980, becoming the first driver to win Rookie of the Year honors and the Winston Cup Championship in successive years;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt had an extraordinary career as a NASCAR driver, was named Driver of the Year five times, and is tied with Richard Petty for the most Winston Cup Championships, with seven titles;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt won 76 career races, including the 1998 Daytona 500;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt lived and worked in Mooresville, North Carolina, and his racing and related businesses contributed much to the employment, business development, and prestige of Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Davidson, Iredell, Lincoln, and Rowan counties in North Carolina;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt, nicknamed the Intimidator, was a fierce competitor, an exceptional driver, and a legend in his sport;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt was always known for his kindness and friendliness to his fans and community;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt was a loving husband to his wife, Teresa, and an exemplary father to his sons, Dale Jr. and Kerry, and daughters, Kelley and Taylor;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt was a man of strong faith and had on his dashboard a citation from Proverbs 18:10, “The name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous runneth into it and is safe.”;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt was one of the most respected drivers for his achievements on and off the track and in the words of his son, Dale Jr., “stands as an example of what hard work and dedication will achieve. He praises God, loves his family, enjoys his friends.”; and

Whereas Dale Earnhardt died in a crash during the final lap of the Daytona 500 on February 18, 2001, prompting Bill France, Jr., Chairman of NASCAR’s board of directors to declare, “NASCAR has lost its greatest driver in the history of the sport.” : Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) recognizes Dale Earnhardt as one of the
3 greatest race car drivers ever to participate in the
4 sport of racing and for his many contributions to the
5 Nation throughout his lifetime, and honors him for
6 transcending the sport of racing to become a role
7 model as both a talented competitor and as a loving
8 husband and father; and

1 (2) extends its deepest condolences to the fam-
2 ily of Dale Earnhardt.

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