

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2009**

**H**

**1**

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 562**

---

Sponsors: Representatives Spear, Hill, McGee (Primary Sponsors); and Lewis.

---

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

---

March 12, 2009

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF JACKLYN "JACK"  
2 HAROLD LUCAS, ONE OF THE YOUNGEST MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS OF  
3 THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

4 Whereas, Jacklyn "Jack" Harold Lucas was born on February 14, 1928, to Louis  
5 Harold Lucas and Margaret Edwards Lucas; and

6 Whereas, Jack Lucas spent much of his youth on a farm in Plymouth, North  
7 Carolina; and

8 Whereas, after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Jack Lucas felt a strong desire to serve  
9 his country and at the age of 14 enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on August 6, 1942;  
10 and

11 Whereas, after basic training, Jack Lucas was disappointed to learn that he had been  
12 assigned to train new cadets, while a majority of his unit had been assigned to combat duty; and

13 Whereas, despite his orders, Jack Lucas boarded a train with his fellow marines to  
14 the West Coast and was eventually assigned to duty in Hawaii; and

15 Whereas, Jack Lucas wanted to see combat and on January 10, 1945, slipped aboard  
16 the USS Deuel, which was carrying members of the 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Division to Iwo Jima; and

17 Whereas, after several days at sea, Jack Lucas surrendered to a senior officer and  
18 was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 26<sup>th</sup> Marine, 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Division; and

19 Whereas, shortly after landing on Iwo Jima, Jack Lucas and three other marines  
20 were attacked by grenades on February 20, 1945; and

21 Whereas, Jack Lucas threw himself on one of the grenades and pulled the second  
22 one beneath his body, saving the other marines from the explosion but badly injuring himself;  
23 and

24 Whereas, Jack Lucas was later discharged from the Marine Corps due to his  
25 injuries, but was awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery during a ceremony at the White  
26 House on October 5, 1945; and

27 Whereas, Jack Lucas at the age of 17 became the youngest marine in history and the  
28 youngest soldier in the 20<sup>th</sup> century to receive the Medal of Honor; and

29 Whereas, after leaving the service, Jack Lucas went on to complete high school and  
30 college, attending Duke University for two years and graduating from High Point College in  
31 1956; and

32 Whereas, in 1961, Jack Lucas rejoined the Armed Forces, enlisting in the army and  
33 serving for more than two years with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division; and

34 Whereas, Jack Lucas, and the countless men and women who have unselfishly  
35 served in the military, should be commended for their service to our country; and

36 Whereas, Jack Lucas died on June 5, 2008, in Hattiesburg, Mississippi; and



1           Whereas, Jack Lucas is survived by his wife, Ruby Lucas; his children, William  
2 Lucas, Jimmy Lucas, Louis Harold Lucas, Peggy Lucas, Kelly Lucas; and his brother, Louis Ed  
3 Lucas; Now, therefore,

4 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

5           **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of Jacklyn "Jack" Harold  
6 Lucas and expresses the appreciation of this State and its citizens for the valiant service he  
7 rendered to his country as a member of the armed forces.

8           **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its condolences to the family of  
9 Jacklyn "Jack" Harold Lucas.

10           **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this  
11 resolution to the family of Jacklyn "Jack" Harold Lucas.

12           **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.