

House Resolution No. 834

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the lives of Show-Me State residents who have proven down through the years to be exemplary citizens in local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Wing Lin "David" Leong of Springfield, Missouri, attained considerable distinction as a restaurateur who opened Leong's Tea House, the first Asian restaurant in Springfield, in 1963; and

Whereas, on February 28, 2008, David Leong will enhance his already impressive record of achievement when he receives the prestigious 2008 Pinnacle Award from the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau at its Salute to Travel and Tourism event; and

Whereas, David Leong immigrated to the United States from China in 1940 and soon entered military service as a member of the United States Army who participated in the 1944 invasion of Normandy; and

Whereas, after returning to civilian life and opening Leong's Tea House, David Leong began searching for a Chinese-American fusion dish that would appeal to the palate of Springfield residents; and

Whereas, his Springfield-style "cashew chicken" made up of chunks of fried chicken covered with a thick oyster sauce and topped with green onions and cashews soon became a gustatory hit in the area; and

Whereas, now eighty-eight years of age, David Leong is retired from the restaurant business, but his recipe for cashew chicken is still served throughout Springfield and its environs at more than one hundred locations; and

Whereas, David Leong is justifiably proud also to be known as the beloved husband of the late Wong Shau Ngor and the loving father of seven children:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the well-deserved selection of David Leong for a 2008 Pinnacle Award from the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, to commend his entrepreneurial actions that led to the invention of the "cashew chicken" delicacy, and to convey this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes for continued success in life for many more years to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Wing Lin "David" Leong of Springfield, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Bob Dixon
District No. 140

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 834, adopted February 27, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker