

## 2009-K214

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Oliver C. Hamister, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is with great sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Oliver C. Hamister, noting the significance of his purposeful life and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Born in Kenmore, New York, Oliver C. Hamister graduated from Kenmore High School and served in the United States Navy during World War II, where he saw action throughout the Pacific Theater aboard the amphibious command ship USS Mount McKinley; he later earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, After two years in Arizona, Oliver C. Hamister returned to Western New York to help his brother-in-law operate a Chevrolet dealership in Cattaraugus, New York; and

WHEREAS, The business became Hamister-Gillogly Chevrolet upon moving to Union Road in West Seneca, New York; Oliver C. Hamister sold his interest in 1972 and four years later bought what became Hamister Pontiac in Jamestown, which he operated until 1982; and

WHEREAS, In 1980, Oliver C. Hamister joined his nephew, Mark E. Hamister, at National Health Care Affiliates, which became one of the nation's largest health care service providers; and

WHEREAS, Beginning as a partner and investor, Oliver C. Hamister was named senior vice president administration in 1982, a role he kept until his retirement in 1995; he remained a partner and director until the following year, when the company was sold; and

WHEREAS, Oliver C. Hamister believed in giving back to the community he loved so much and was active in many organizations, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, St. Mark's Episcopal Church and the Rotary Club of Buffalo, where he helped raise funds to build Rotary Rink at Key

Center; and

WHEREAS, Oliver C. Hamister is survived by his wife, Julia; his sons, Richard and James; his daughter, Lisa Bonebrake; his brother, George; and nephew, Mark; all of whom felt privileged to be a part of his life and rejoiced in his many achievements; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, Oliver C. Hamister leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Oliver C. Hamister, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Oliver C. Hamister.