

## 2009-J2342

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano, a native of Wantagh, New York

WHEREAS, It is with great sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano, noting the significance of his purposeful life and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, A 1996 graduate of Wantagh High School, United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano was an academic standout who designed an electric car so well during his senior year that it became the prototype for a kit sold in hobby stores; and

WHEREAS, United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano also volunteered at the Cradle of Aviation Museum during high school, where he worked with veteran pilots to restore aircraft, from modern jets to planes made out of fabric and wood; and

WHEREAS, His academic record and gift for engineering and mechanics earned United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano nominations to both the United States Naval Academy and the United States Air Force Academy; and

WHEREAS, United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano attended the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he received a bachelor's degree in Aeronautical Engineering in 2000; and

WHEREAS, In addition, United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano earned a Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Idaho, which he pursued through online classes while he was serving; and

WHEREAS, During the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano flew KC-135 refueler planes; he later trained in and flew U-2 spy planes in overseas missions; and

WHEREAS, United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano is survived by his parents, Gary and Helen, brother, Nicholas, and girlfriend, Katie Zlotek, 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, United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano 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 United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano, a native of Wantagh, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of United States Air Force Captain Mark P. Graziano.