

2009-K824

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION paying grateful tribute to the life and many accomplishments of John J. McNulty, Jr., distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to mourn publicly the death of prominent citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is with feelings of great sorrow and deepest regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of John J. McNulty, Jr., on Monday, December 28, 2009, at the age of 87, whose purposeful life and endeavors were unerringly directed to serving his community and the needs of his fellow man; and

WHEREAS, Born, raised and a lifelong resident of the Village of Green Island, John J. "Jack" McNulty, Jr. was the son of the late John and Margaret Quest McNulty; and

WHEREAS, He was a graduate of both St. Joseph's School in Green Island and LaSalle Institute in Troy, class of 1939; he then attended Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts, before graduating from the Renouard Training School for Embalmers in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Jack McNulty served his country as a member of the United States Navy in the Pacific Theatre during World War II and, upon his return from service in 1945, he established McNulty Funeral Home in Green Island; he distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, A true paradigm of sincerity, integrity and humbleness, John J. McNulty, Jr. represented everything that is good and honest about public service and served his constituents to the best of his ability for seven decades; and

WHEREAS, He was first elected as Green Island Town Supervisor in 1949 and served in that office until being elected Mayor of the Village of Green Island in 1957; he served in this capacity until being elected Sheriff of Albany County, where he served from 1974 until 1979; and

WHEREAS, John J. McNulty, Jr. returned to his beloved Green Island to once again serve as Mayor from 1983 to 1985 when his community needed him, and for a third time from 1992 until retiring on December 31, 2002, when his daughter, Ellen, was appointed to succeed him; and

WHEREAS, This illustrious public giant was a member of the New York State Commission of Corrections from 1985 until 1989; served as Trustee and Vice Chairman of the Green Island Power Authority from 1988 until 2005 when he was appointed Special Consultant for governmental affairs; and held the position of Chairman of the Green Island IDA from 1979 until 2003; and

WHEREAS, John J. McNulty, Jr.'s commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Jack served as the chairman of the Green Island Democratic Committee for decades and was still a committeeman at the time of his death; and

WHEREAS, Affiliated with many organizations, John J. McNulty, Jr. was a member of the Albany County Democratic Committee, where he served in several capacities over the years and was a mentor and trusted advisor to many; in addition, he was the inspiration for the Green Island Democratic Association, which was established by volunteers who worked on his 1973 sheriff's campaign; and

WHEREAS, A lifelong communicant of St. Joseph's Church in Green Island and a member of its Holy Name Society and St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Perpetual Adoration Society of St. Augustine's Church, the Capital District First Friday Club and the Association of Jeanne Jugan, John J. McNulty, Jr. was also an Honorary Life Member and past Grand Knight of the Green Island Knights of Columbus, an Honorary Life Member of the Father Van Rensselaer Assembly Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, a member of the New York State and Capital District Funeral Directors Associations, the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Troy, the Watervliet Elks Lodge, the McNulty-McCutchen Post 259 VFW, the Legnard-Curtin Post American Legion and its Last Man's Club, the Pat Aiezza Post Catholic War Veterans, the New York State Sheriffs' Association, the LaSalle Institute Alumni Association, the Green Island Italian Fraternal Society, Green Island Senior Citizens, and the Green Island Vagabond Club; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, John J. McNulty, Jr. was especially active in the Society of the Friends of St. Patrick in Troy where he previously served as President and Chairman of the Board, and had attended their annual dinner for over 70 years; he also served on the Board of Directors at Pioneer Savings Bank in Troy from 1971 until 1997; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his wife, Madelon Reinfurt McNulty; one son, William F. McNulty, who was killed in action in South Vietnam in 1970; a brother, William McNulty; and his sister, Anna McNulty, John J. McNulty, Jr. is survived by his children, John (Marge) McNulty III, former Congressman Michael (Nancy) McNulty, Mary McNulty, and Ellen (Mark) McNulty-Ryan; and 11 grandchildren, Kathleen Cruikshank, Stephen Swinton, Kristin Swinton, Kelly Cummings, Michele Sovie, Colleen Murtagh, Mark Swinton, Angela Legault, Nancy McNulty, Billy McNulty and Maria McNulty; as well as 16 great-grandchildren, Daniel, Leah and Lucas Cruikshank, Will and Caitie Cummings, Liam, Lauren and Brendan Murtagh, Teigin, Elijah and Morgyn Legault, Lola and Daniel Sovie, and Madelon, Jack and Will Swinton; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, John J. McNulty, Jr. 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; and

WHEREAS, Loyal friend, trusted advisor and ardent fighter for the causes in which he so strongly believed, the accomplishments of John J. McNulty, Jr. are legend; he will be deeply missed and truly merits the grateful tribute of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to pay grateful tribute to the life and many accomplishments of John J. McNulty, Jr., recognizing the significance of his exemplary record of public service and dedicating ourselves anew to the causes and people he served; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of John J. McNulty, Jr. with the deepest condolences of this Legislative Body.