

2015-J489

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Daniel J. Thomas, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to mourn the death of Daniel J. Thomas, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and

WHEREAS, Daniel J. Thomas, a resident of Wurtsboro, New York, died on December 24, 2014, at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, The son of the late Marie and Jacob Thomas, Daniel J. Thomas was born on August 17, 1928, in Hamtramck, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed man served his country honorably as a member of the United States Marine Corps during the second World War; he holds the distinction of being the youngest Marine to fight at the Battle of Iwo Jima, one of the deadliest battles in the Pacific Theater during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Following the completion of his military service, Daniel J. Thomas completed high school, and went on to graduate from Indiana University, where he was a football star; and

WHEREAS, After graduation, Daniel J. Thomas continued to serve his country as an FBI Special Agent from 1952 to 1961; and

WHEREAS, Daniel J. Thomas next married Joan Halloran and the two moved to Wurtsboro, New York; he then took over the operation of his father-in-law's restaurant, Danny's Village Inn, one of the most popular eateries in the region; and

WHEREAS, Daniel J. Thomas distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, After serving a term on the Mamakating Town Board, Daniel J. Thomas became a Coach on the Orange Rockets of the Monticello Youth Football League; his leadership helped inspire the struggling team to great success on the football field; and

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

WHEREAS, Daniel J. Thomas was a member of numerous civic and professional organizations, including the Mamakating VFW, the Mamakating American Legion, the Knights of Columbus Council No. 14560, Mamakating Seniors, and the Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI; and

WHEREAS, A man of faith, Daniel J. Thomas was also a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Wurtsboro; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his parents and his two sisters, Delphine Capaldi and Genevieve Wojciechowski, Daniel J. Thomas is survived by his wife of 60 years, Joan Halloran Thomas, and his many loving nieces and nephews, including Vincent Rampe, Chris Rampe, Kathy Motl (JT), and Eleanor Pannenbacker (Roy); and

WHEREAS, Armed with humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Daniel J. Thomas 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 Daniel J. Thomas, 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 Daniel J. Thomas.