

2015-J1189

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Wilson Shea posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Wilson Shea posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate, to be celebrated on Monday, May 18, 2015, in Columbia County; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by a resolution in 2014 and is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Born on April 6, 1919, in Hudson, New York, Wilson "Harpie" Shea graduated from St. Mary's Catholic School in Hudson; and

WHEREAS, Wilson Shea began serving his country proudly as a member of the United States Navy on November 23, 1942, on the USS White Plains during World War II; in 1945, he was honorably discharged after serving more than 2 years of active service; and

WHEREAS, This brave soldier was the recipient of numerous awards and accolades for his exceptional military service including the Presiden-

tial Unit Citation Ribbon, Bronze Star, World War II Victory Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal; and

WHEREAS, After his military service, Wilson Shea came home and returned to his place of employment, which he left to serve his country, at V&O Press; he then retired after 47 years of distinguished service; and

WHEREAS, Wilson Shea died on September 24, 2014, at the age of 95; predeceased by his wife, the former Mary Ann Fallarino, Wilson Shea is survived by one niece, and one nephew; and

WHEREAS, Residents of this great State must never forget the courage with which these men and women served their country; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, Wilson Shea demonstrated his love for his country and merits forevermore, the highest respect of his State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Our Nation's veterans deserve to be recognized, commended and thanked by the people of the State of New York for their service and for their dedication to their communities, their State and their Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Wilson Shea posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Wilson Shea.