

2015-J1194

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Thomas F. Jourdanais, Jr. 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 Thomas F. Jourdanais, Jr. 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 Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at the Saratoga County Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony; 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 July 14, 1949, in Cohoes, New York, Thomas F. Jourdanais, Jr. moved with his family to Waterford, New York, in 1964; and

WHEREAS, A 1968 graduate of Shenendehowa High School, Clifton Park, New York, Thomas F. Jourdanais, Jr. was a communicant of St. Mary's Church, Crescent, New York; and

WHEREAS, Following graduation, Thomas F. Jourdanais, Jr. began his service to his country as a member of the United States Marine Corps;

after completing his training at Parris Island, South Carolina, he arrived in South Vietnam on December 22, 1968; and

WHEREAS, During an operation in the Quang Nam Province, 20-year-old Thomas F. Jourdanais, Jr. was wounded and, after succumbing to his injuries, died on January 1, 1969, in Vietnam, with the esteemed rank of Private First Class; and

WHEREAS, Thomas F. Jourdanais, Jr. is survived by his sister, Beatrice Jourdanais-Thibodeau, and five other relatives, Marlene Jourdanais, Robert Jourdanais, Kathy Hurlburt, Richard Jourdanais, and Maryann Senecal; and

WHEREAS, Residents of this great State must never forget the courage with which these men and women served their country, and must recognize that no greater debt is owed than that owed to those who gave their lives for their beloved Nation and to those who continue to be missing in action; Thomas F. Jourdanais, Jr. was one such soldier; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, Thomas F. Jourdanais, Jr. 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 Thomas F. Jourdanais, Jr. 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 Thomas F. Jourdanais, Jr.