

2015-J3687

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Lou Howard, legendary football coach, distinguished public servant, 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 endeavors serve to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Lou Howard, a lifelong resident of Amityville, New York, died on Monday, January 25, at the age of 92; and

WHEREAS, Born on December 16, 1923, Lou Howard grew up in Long Island, and proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army Air Corps during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Following the completion of his military service, Lou Howard earned his bachelor's degree from Springfield College in 1948, and received his Master's degree in Educational Administration from New York University; and

WHEREAS, With a love for teaching and mentoring young people, Lou Howard became the beloved coach of the Amityville High School Football Team where he helped lead his teams to nine consecutive league championships and five consecutive Rutgers trophies over 14 years; and

WHEREAS, An innovator in the sport he loved, Lou Howard authored several books on football, including one on the shotgun formation, which was the hallmark of his Amityville offense long before it became widely used in professional football; and

WHEREAS, Lou Howard's knowledge of the psychology of coaching also made him a sought-after speaker; he often delivered pre-game motivational talks to such NFL teams as the Dallas Cowboys, Washington Redskins and the New Orleans Saints; he also gave a rousing speech to the Univer-

sity of Iowa Hawkeyes football team in 2010; and

WHEREAS, A man of many talents, Lou Howard completed his Ph.D. in Aerospace Technology from Western Colorado University, and developed the Aerospace program at SUNY Farmingdale, where he served as the program's first Department Chairman; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed renaissance man also authored one of the first texts instructing pilots on how use the instrument landing system; in addition, he served as a flight instructor and FAA flight examiner, and was appointed by Richard Nixon to serve on a federal advisory committee to design the first space shuttle for NASA; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, Lou Howard celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Charles Lindbergh's historic flight by retracing the pilot's famous route, and spearheaded efforts to unite Le Bourget and Amityville as sister cities, a cultural alliance which continues to thrive 35 years later; and

WHEREAS, With a sense of civic responsibility, Lou Howard served several terms as mayor of Amityville before being elected to the Suffolk County Legislature, where he represented the 14th District and rose to become the Presiding Officer of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Lou Howard was also elected to represent the 9th District in the New York State Assembly, served two terms on the State University of New York Board of Trustees, and recently retired from the Stony Brook Council at Stony Brook University; and

WHEREAS, Lou Howard's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; he was a newspaper publisher and former owner of the AMITYVILLE RECORD and the SUFFOLK SUN, as well as a licensed real estate broker, and small business owner; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Lou Howard was an accomplished woodturner, and a founding member of the Long Island Woodturner's Association; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his parents, Lou Howard is survived by his

wife of 67 years, Margaret (Webber); their seven children, Thomas (Pamela), Maureen (John), Bruce, Patrick (Anette), Margaret (Dietmar), Jane (Robin), and Louis T., Jr.; and his 20 grandchildren, Trevor (Maureen), Kaylie (Nicholas), Evan (Anna), Whitney, Leah, Margaret (Greta), John (Jack) Alexander, Margot, Jacqueline, Lars, Olivia, Bjorn, Andrew, Katherine, Blake, Claire, Quinn, Liam, and Aidan; as well as his nine great-grandchildren, Tyler, Mairead, Shane, Brady, Ella, Callan, Maggie, Reagan, and Brooke; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, Lou Howard leaves behind a remarkable 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 Lou Howard, 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 Lou Howard.