

2015-K1120

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION celebrating the life and accomplishments of Dr. Gregory L. Kustas, 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, Dr. Gregory L. Kustas, of Amherst, New York, died on February 7, 2016, at the age of 93; and

WHEREAS, Gregory L. Kustas was born on November 21, 1922, in Poughkeepsie, New York; he proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army during World War II and received an honorable discharge as a Tech Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, He developed a love for learning, books, and the Classics; he received both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in Classics from Cornell University; he went on to earned his PhD. in Greek Classics from Harvard University, completing his dissertation on Orthodox Patriarch Photios' library in Constantinople; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gregory L. Kustas shared his passion with thousands of students at the University of Buffalo for 38 years, from 1954 until his retirement on August 26, 1992; he chaired the Classics Department and was a member of the Faculty Senate and University Senate; during this time, he was a Fulbright Scholar, conducting research in Athens and Mount Athos, Greece; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gregory L. Kustas was the author of numerous books, reviews and articles, on Greek Classics and Rhetoric, and was known to enjoy art, classical and folk music, reading, and baseball; and

WHEREAS, His greatest joy was his family; predeceased by his wife,

Maria, and his brother, Nicholas, Dr. Gregory L. Kustas is survived by his son, Andrew Kustas; his grandson, Jordan; his sister, Maria Mavodones and brother-in-law Zinas Mavodones; and his nieces, Catina (Michael) Daly, Nike (Tony) Beaudry, and Eirene Mavodones; as well as several grandnieces and nephews, including Maia and Zachary Beaudry, Zoe Daly, and Jonah and Timothy Libens; and

WHEREAS, A man with such devotion to country, service and family, Dr. Gregory L. Kustas leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he loved, served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Dr. Gregory L. Kustas, 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 Dr. Gregory L. Kustas.