

2015-J6045

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Joseph J. Vitale, 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, Joseph J. Vitale of Williamsville, New York, died on Tuesday, May 17, 2016, at the age of 80; and

WHEREAS, Born March 27, 1936, in Buffalo, New York, Joseph J. Vitale was a graduate of Emerson High School; he proudly served as a member of the United States Army from 1955-1957, and was stationed in Europe; and

WHEREAS, Returning from service, Joseph J. Vitale became a barber and operated Joe's Barber Shop and a number of other shops in West Seneca, New York; in the mid-1960s, he was awarded the contract to cut hair in the Erie County Holding Center, Buffalo, New York, and continued as a barber there three mornings a week until last year; and

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

WHEREAS, From 1972 to 1986, Joseph J. Vitale managed Bond's Art Shop in Williamsville when he purchased the Brewery, a Kenmore Tavern; after acquiring the building that housed the tavern a year later, he fulfilled a dream by transforming it into a restaurant; and

WHEREAS, Semi-retired in 1989, Joseph J. Vitale opened Jovi's Italian Grille and Bistro, and maintained an active interest in the business; the restaurant is now managed by his son, Mark; and

WHEREAS, Joseph J. Vitale's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including char-

itable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Joseph J. Vitale is survived by his wife of 59 years, the former Frances Grillo; two sons, Mark and Joseph Jr.; a daughter, Cheryl DellaNeve; a brother, Charles; a sister, Concetta Zaccagnino, and five grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Joseph J. Vitale 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 Joseph J. Vitale, 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 Joseph J. Vitale.