

2015-J6244

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Henry R. Wenzel, Jr., Korean War veteran, 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, Henry R. "Hank" Wenzel, Jr. died on Sunday, May 29, 2016, at the age of 84, surrounded by his loved ones at MidHudson Regional Hospital, Westchester Medical Center, Poughkeepsie, New York; and

WHEREAS, Henry R. Wenzel, Jr. was born in Kingston, New York, on June 8, 1931, to Henry R. Sr. and Fay Edelstein Pascene Wenzel; and

WHEREAS, Proudly serving his country as a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corp from 1948-1954 during the Korean War, Henry R. Wenzel, Jr. was part of Operation Big Switch; and

WHEREAS, Henry R. Wenzel, Jr. met the love of his life, Antoinette Censi, on a blind date and they continued their love story for 61 years; the couple was united in marriage on May 15, 1955, and moved to Marlboro, New York, in 1960; and

WHEREAS, A retired Insurance Agent from the Wenzel Insurance Agency in Port Ewen, New York, Henry R. Wenzel, Jr. was also the former owner of Hank's TV in Marlboro; and

WHEREAS, Henry R. Wenzel, Jr. distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, Henry R. Wenzel, Jr.'s commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, A proud supporter of veterans organizations and causes, Henry R. Wenzel, Jr. served as life member of the American Legion Post 1796, New Windsor, New York, and Vieby Sutton Post 124, Marlboro, New York; he also held the title of Past Commandant of the Marine Corp League and Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Henry R. Wenzel, Jr. was a member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary-01s 20-02 for 10 years, New York State Coordinator of AARP Driver Safety Program managing 900 volunteers for six years, National Exhibitor of AARP Driver Safety Program for four years, Member of the Gathering of Eagles, and a 25-year member of Marlboro Hose Company No. 1; and

WHEREAS, An avid fisherman, Henry R. Wenzel, Jr. spent many weekends on "Poppy's Boat"; he was a devoted husband and father who made parenthood his most important calling and taught his children the value of hard work; and

WHEREAS, Henry R. Wenzel, Jr. is survived by his adoring wife of 61 years, Antoinette, his daughter, Deborah, his sons, Stephen (Angela), Gary (Patricia), and Craig (Laura), eleven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Henry R. Wenzel, Jr. 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 Henry R. Wenzel, Jr., Korean War veteran, 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 Henry R. Wenzel, Jr.