

2021-K509

Assembly Resolution No. 509

BY: M. of A. Byrnes

MOURNING the death of Brian W. West, decorated Vietnam 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 this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Brian William West of Springwater, New York, died on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at the age of 74; and

WHEREAS, Born on December 17, 1946, in Rochester, New York, Brian W. West attended Livonia Central School, and in January of 1964, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps.; and

WHEREAS, Brian W. West served with his Brothers in Arms during two tours in Vietnam; during this time, he was awarded two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star with Combat Valor and commendations too numerous to list; and

WHEREAS, One of Brian W. West's duties for the Marine Corps was training narcotics detection dogs; he once met President Richard Nixon and gave him a demonstration of his dog training skills; and

WHEREAS, Brian W. West was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps in 1972; on August 14, 1971, he married the former Sandra Johnson and together they raised three beautiful children and celebrated 50 years of marriage; and

WHEREAS, Brian W. West distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, For many decades, Brian W. West was employed as a Security Guard at General Motors (Rochester Products); and

WHEREAS, Brian W. West's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Brian W. West cared about his community and served as a Town Councilman for the Town of Springwater in the 1980s; he was well-known in the Webster Crossing community as a gracious host of BBQ's, card parties and horseshoe parties; he was always ready to help anyone in need and often did so without any fanfare or recognition; and

WHEREAS, An avid outdoorsman, Brian W. West loved hunting and fishing, and rooting for the Buffalo Bills and the New York Yankees; he also loved to mow lawns and mowed for many people in the Springwater community; and

WHEREAS, In his retirement, he passed on his love of fishing to his grandsons, who, as children, went fishing with him and then out to McDonalds for lunch; Brian took great joy in all his grandchildren and they truly brought out the joy in him; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his mother, Betty (O'Brien) West, and his brother, Michael Francis West, Brian W. West is survived by his wife of 50 years, Sandra "Sandy" (Johnson) West; his three children, Brian C. (Wendy) West, Phillip (Elizabeth) West, and Tara (John) Harnish; his six grandchildren, Jackson, Cole, Juliette, David, John, and Mary Elizabeth West; his father, Francis West; four siblings, Daniel (Karen) West, Frank (Wendy) West, Barbara West Jones, and Colleen (Earl) Hay; three sisters-in-law, Susan West, Melba Johnson and Iva Johnson; and one brother-in-law, David Johnson; as well as many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends including a very special uncle, AJ Johnston; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Brian W. West 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; he will be deeply missed and truly merits the grateful tribute of this Legislative Body now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Brian W. West, and to express its deepest condolences to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Brian W. West.