

2021-K564

Assembly Resolution No. 564

BY: M. of A. McMahon

CELEBRATING the life and accomplishments of Miguel Rodriguez, longtime sports reporter for The Buffalo News, distinguished citizen and proud member of his Western New York community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to outstanding individuals who distinguished themselves through their exceptional careers, attaining unprecedented success and the highest level of personal achievement; and

WHEREAS, It is with feelings of great sorrow and deepest regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Miguel Rodriguez, longtime sports reporter for The Buffalo News, distinguished citizen and proud member of his community, noting the significance of the loss of a man with immense talent and an indomitable spirit; and

WHEREAS, Miguel Rodriguez of Buffalo, New York, died from complications of COVID-19 on Monday, January 31, 2022, at the age of 47; and

WHEREAS, After attending Canisius High School, where he played varsity football and hockey, Miguel Rodriguez earned his bachelor's degree in English and was the goaltender on the hockey team for the University of Rochester; and

WHEREAS, Miguel Rodriguez's long and distinguished career in sports journalism began while he was a student working in the University of Rochester's sports information department; after graduating, he worked for several New York newspapers including the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, Cortland Standard, and Greater Niagara Newspapers; and

WHEREAS, In 2003, Miguel Rodriguez joined the staff of The Buffalo News and worked in various capacities, most recently, as the high school sports reporter; he also covered the Bills, Sabres, college basketball, college hockey, boxing and the two IIHF World Junior Championships which have been held in Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, Miguel Rodriguez, known as Miggy to his family and many friends, was truly dedicated to his craft and was known as a local sports expert; he was genuinely interested in high school sports and took great efforts to ensure he was a reliable source of information and inspiration to all who followed his recap articles or his "Prep Talk" column; and

WHEREAS, Whether at a stadium or in an arena, Miguel Rodriguez was a constant figure whose love for sports was evident through his endearing smile and thunderous laughter which was contagious; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his love for the games, Miguel Rodriguez's greatest source of happiness was his family; he was a devoted son and brother, and a man whose dedication to his family took precedence over all things; and

WHEREAS, Miguel Rodriguez is survived by his loving parents, John and Nancy Davidson; his devoted sister, Megan; and numerous colleagues, coaches, athletes and friends who will long cherish his memory; and

WHEREAS, The passing of Miguel Rodriguez has surely left a void in Western New York's sporting community; he was a compassionate and caring man who truly made his community a better place with his experience, intelligence and zest for life; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Miguel Rodriguez 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 celebrate the life and accomplishments of Miguel Rodriguez, and to express its deepest condolences to his family, friends, and the Western New York athletic community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Miguel Rodriguez.