

BY: Senator JACOBS

MOURNING the death of Dr. Evan Calkins, prominent geriatrician, loving husband, father and grandfather, and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, There are certain outstanding members of our community who, through their selfless commitment and dedication, have served to better the quality of life in our community and have had a measurable positive impact on the lives of its residents; Dr. Evan Calkins was one such individual; and

WHEREAS, It is with great sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Dr. Evan Calkins, noting the significance of his purposeful life and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Evan Calkins of Hamburg, New York, died on Friday, January 24, 2020, at the age of 99, just six months shy of his 100th Birthday; and

WHEREAS, Evan Calkins received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 1945; throughout his illustrious career, which would traverse nearly seven decades, he specialized in rheumatology and gerontology; and

WHEREAS, As the first Chairman of Medicine at the University at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, after its incorporation into the SUNY system, Dr. Evan Calkins was faced with the challenge of combining the departments of medicine at three separate hospitals, Buffalo General, E.J. Meyer Memorial and Buffalo VA, into a single University-wide department; and

WHEREAS, Following the successful merge of the three hospitals, Dr. Evan Calkins became the first head of the University at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences' division of Geriatrics and Gerontology; and

WHEREAS, By the time he retired 12 years later, the division had trained 10 percent of all fellowship trained geriatricians in the country, an accomplishment of which he was very proud; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his own practice in Hamburg, Dr. Evans Calkins served as the senior physician and coordinator of geriatric programs at HealthCarePlan and as an Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Family Medicine at the University at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences; and

WHEREAS, Within the medical profession, Dr. Evan Calkins published many articles, edited several books, and established numerous medical and community organizations, including the Network in Aging of Western New York; and

WHEREAS, As a prominent leader in his profession, Dr. Evan Calkins proved himself to be a great asset to medicine and to the health and well-being of the aging population within his community; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Evan Calkins stopped seeing patients in 2014 at the remarkable age of 93; he then wrote and edited a seven-volume history of the extended Calkins family; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Evan Calkins and his wife, the former Virginia Brady, raised nine successful and talented children on their farm in Hamburg, where each child was taught responsibility and hard work by choosing their own animal to care for such as sheep, pigs, geese, and even a cow; it was imperative to the Calkins to instill in all of their children and grandchildren the importance of family, work and community; and

WHEREAS, His greatest joy in life was doting on his wife and always looking out for her, a sweet testimony to 73 years of marital bliss, commitment and true love; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his wife, Dr. Evan Calkins is survived by his nine children, Sarah (Thomas), Stephen (Joan), Lucy (John), Joan, Ben, Hugh (Beth), Ellen (Joseph), Geoffrey, and Tim (Carol); and a sister, Patricia; as well as 31 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Evan Calkins, who displayed many exceptional talents and unique qualities, lived an immensely beautiful life built on compassion, kindness, and respect for others; and

WHEREAS, Through his profound words of wisdom, Dr. Evan Calkins' legacy of infinite selflessness and benevolence, will shine on through his family's vivid and happy memories; his insight and strength will forever serve as a beacon of love and hope for all who were privileged to have known and loved such an amazing person; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Dr. Evan Calkins, 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 Dr. Evan Calkins.