

Senate Resolution No. 1145

BY: Senator COMRIE

MOURNING the death of Archie Spigner,
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, Archie Hugo Spigner of Queens, New York, died on Thursday, October 29, 2020, at the age of 92; he was the beloved son of Walter and Estelle (Kitt) Spigner; and

WHEREAS, Born on August 27, 1928, Archie Spigner's father was a house painter and his mother a church volunteer; his family moved to New York when Archie was seven, eventually settling in Southeast Queens, New York, during the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, Archie Spigner graduated from Central Needle Trades High School in 1947, and began working at a shoe factory; during this time, he enrolled in the Jefferson School of Social Science, where he learned about labor organizing; and

WHEREAS, In the 1950s, Archie Spigner became a city bus driver and joined the Negro American Labor Council where he later founded the organization's Queens branch; in that role, he met and began working with many influential state leaders, legendary lawmakers, and activists; and

WHEREAS, Archie Spigner attended college, graduating with a bachelor's degree in political science from Queens College in 1972; just two years later, he won the City Council seat representing southeast Queens, the prestigious position he held until 2001; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his illustrious career in public service, Archie Spigner dealt with the issues at hand and went about his business without fanfare; both a teacher and mentor, his office was a little-used room in the back, and rather than frequenting expensive steak houses, he held morning meetings in Queens' diners; and

WHEREAS, Archie Spigner distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, Archie Spigner's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his first wife, Christine Townsend, Archie Spigner is survived by his second wife, Leslie Spigner; his son, Philip;

a grandson; and two great-granddaughters; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Archie Spigner 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 Archie Spigner, 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 Archie Spigner.