

Senate Resolution No. 1752

**BY:** Senator RATH

**HONORING** Raymond Skaine upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce on March 3, 2022

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those distinguished citizens who would devote their life's work and purpose to community service, contributing to the welfare of the citizens of their communities and this great Empire State; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Raymond Skaine upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce, to be celebrated at its 49th Annual Awards Dinner on Thursday, March 3, 2022, at Samuel's Grande Manor in Clarence, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Raymond Skaine is receiving this prestigious award for his steadfast and unremitting commitment to his beloved community of Clarence; and

**WHEREAS,** Raymond Skaine moved to Buffalo, New York, when his father was transferred from Pennsylvania; he attended Bennett and Kensington High Schools where he participated in both football and track; in his junior and senior years, he earned the honor of All-High in both sports; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition to being a student-athlete, Raymond Skaine volunteered his time serving on the Projection Team as a Guidance Monitor and as President of his Delaware HI-Y; and

**WHEREAS,** After graduating, Raymond Skaine earned a scholarship to the University of Buffalo where he was a member of the 1958 Lambert Cup Football Team; and

**WHEREAS,** Unfortunately, in the Spring of 1959, Raymond Skaine was injured and declared medically unfit to play; in the Fall of 1959, he enlisted in the United States Army, taking advantage of the RFA Act; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1960, Raymond Skaine married the former Sandra Markham and they moved to Snyder, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** While employed by Bliss and Laughlin, Raymond Skaine was transferred to Connecticut in 1965; two years later, he accepted a position with Predco and returned to Western New York, settling in Clarence; in 1972, he completed his studies at the University at Buffalo and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Management Science; and

**WHEREAS,** Raymond and Sandra Skaine were blessed with three children, Tracey, Rebecca and Lincoln, all of whom attended Clarence schools which

led them to become involved in the Harris Hill PTO; and

**WHEREAS,** Raymond and his wife served as co-President for a number of years and were involved in many school activities; as the children grew, Raymond began coaching the girls' softball team as well as the boys' baseball team in the town recreation program; he was also active in the Football Fathers of Clarence; and

**WHEREAS,** The Skaine Family became members of Clarence United Methodist Church and Raymond served on many committees, including Trustees and Staff Pastor Relations; he also taught Sunday School and served as the Sunday School Superintendent; he remains active by singing in the choir and is a greeter on Sunday morning; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1979, Raymond Skaine was elected to the Clarence Central School Board of Education, where he served until 1988; many community issues were resolved during this period; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1995, Raymond Skaine was appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), serving as Chairman for three years until he left in 2008; he was once again appointed to the ZBA in 2020 and is currently serving as a member; and

**WHEREAS,** After retiring in 2003, Raymond Skaine began volunteering for Meals on Wheels, delivering meals to those in need; this year marks his 14th year with the program; and

**WHEREAS,** It was also after retiring that he became involved in the Clarence Concert Association serving as a liaison between the Clarence schools and the Town Park; furthermore, he spent 10 years as a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Raymond Skaine upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Raymond Skaine.