

Assembly Resolution No. 406

BY: M. of A. Santabarbara

MOURNING the death of John P. Miller, meritorious 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 the great State of New York; and

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

WHEREAS, John P. Miller of Tribes Hill, New York, died on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at the age of 96; and

WHEREAS, John P. Miller was born to the late Cora E. (Brandt) and John P. Miller on August 26, 1924, in Amsterdam, New York; unfortunately his father died when he was just 18 months-old, so he learned lifelong skills from his neighbors and developed a strong work ethic as the son of a single mother raising two children during the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, On the same day he graduated from Wilbur H. Lynch High School, John P. Miller learned that he had been drafted into the United States Army; after completing bootcamp, he proudly served his country as a member of the 34th Infantry Division (Red Bulls) 168th Regiment, Company B during World War II; and

WHEREAS, In January of 1944, John P. Miller landed in Casablanca, North Africa before being deployed to Anzio beach head in March of 1944; as a first machine gunner, he saw intense battle and was wounded twice, fighting his way through Italy from Monticattini, Rome, Florence, the Po Valley and Milan, eventually ending in Switzerland; and

WHEREAS, For his courageous service, John P. Miller was awarded double Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star for Valor, Combat Infantry Badge, European Theatre Badge with Four Battle Stars, Victory Medal, and Good Conduct Medal; and

WHEREAS, Upon his discharge in December of 1945, John P. Miller returned to Amsterdam, and in 1946, began his more than four-decade career with the New York State Department of Transportation Barge Canal Systems as a chief lock tender; and

WHEREAS, John P. Miller married the love of his life, the former Lorraine (Blazejewski), on January 6, 1952, and together, they raised two children; and

WHEREAS, Devoted to his community, John P. Miller was an active member of the Tribes Hill Volunteer Fire Department for 75 years;

well-known for his kindness and sense of humor, he was posthumously honored with the renaming of Mohawk Drive to John P. Miller Way; and

WHEREAS, An avid outdoorsman, John P. Miller lived each and every day to the fullest, and was truly in awe of the wonders of nature; his greatest joy in life however, was his family, whom he loved spending time with; he took great pride in his role as a devoted husband, father, poppy and great-poppy; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his loving wife of 52 years, Lorraine, John P. Miller is survived by two sons, John P. Miller Jr. (Harvey Foote) and Dale L. Miller (Bryan Kelley); two grandchildren, Christopher (Jennifer) and Sarah (Bradley), and six great-grandchildren, Christopher, Matthew, Joshua, Emily, Nicholas and Andrew, as well as numerous friends, who will long cherish his winning personality, passion and commitment to making his Tribes Hill community a better place to live, work and play; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, John P. Miller 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 John P. Miller, meritorious veteran, 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 John P. Miller.