

Senate Resolution No. 1383

BY: Senator RYAN

MOURNING the death of Mary Ann Kresse,
distinguished citizen, and devoted member of her
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, Mary Ann Kresse of Buffalo, New York died on June 6, 2023, at the age of 84; and

WHEREAS, Born in 1938 in Gardenville, New York to Dr. Lawrence and Margaret Miano, Mary Ann Kresse was the oldest of eight children and attended Fourteen Holy Helpers Church and School; she graduated high school as valedictorian from Saint Mary's Seminary in Buffalo in 1955; and

WHEREAS, She attended Ladycliff College in Highland Falls, NY on an academic scholarship where she was a math major, senior class president and valedictorian upon her graduation in 1959; Mary Ann Kresse went on to earn an MS in Computer Science from Fordham University and began her professional career as a computer systems designer at Univac and then Honeywell; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ann Kresse married her beloved husband, Bob Kresse in 1964; the two were married for 56 years until the occasion of his passing in 2020; and

WHEREAS, The mother of eight children and 20 grandchildren, Mary Ann Kresse found family to be one of the most prized possessions in life, expressing her love through personalized letters, care packages, treats, and hugs and kisses; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ann Kresse distinguished herself in her profession and by her sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of her community; and

WHEREAS, Most recently she served on the boards of the Buffalo Botanical Gardens, Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo Maritime Center, served as Board President of the Buffalo Heritage Carousel, and also served with the King Urban Life Center and WNY Heritage Press; in the past, she held leadership positions on the boards of Buffalo Museum of Science, Service Collaborative, O'Connell & Co, UB Center for the Arts, Kleinhan's Music Hall and National Garden Festival/Garden Walk Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ann Kresse was also chair/co-chair of major capital campaigns for Mercy Hospital, Buffalo Museum of Science, Forest Lawn and Buffalo Botanical Gardens; further, she was a longtime member of the

Junior League of Buffalo, serving as president from 1981-1982; and

WHEREAS, From 1999-2004, Mary Ann Kresse worked as an AmeriCorps/Vista program manager; and

WHEREAS, Since 2005, Bob and Mary Ann Kresse found a special spiritual home in the parishioners and architecture of Blessed Trinity Parish in Buffalo, where Mary Ann was a lector and eucharistic minister; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ann Kresse's commitment to excellence, and her spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ann Kresse is survived by her children, Joseph, Mary Katherine, Ann, Claire, William, Andrew, Bartholomew, and Thaddeus; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Mary Ann Kresse leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all she served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Mary Ann Kresse, distinguished citizen, and devoted member of her community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Mary Ann Kresse.