

BY: M. of A. Sillitti

MOURNING the death of John Baptisto Fiore, proud Vietnam 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 endeavors served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, John Baptisto Fiore of Glen Cove, New York, died on December 31, 2022, at the age of 73; and

WHEREAS, The son of Italian immigrants, John Baptisto Fiore grew up in Bayside, New York; and

WHEREAS, In 1968, during the escalation of United States participation in the Vietnam War, John Baptisto Fiore enlisted in the Army; he spent months bravely serving with the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam and participated in 45 helicopter combat missions; and

WHEREAS, John Baptisto Fiore's military honors include being awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Combat Medal, and the National Defense Medal for his exemplary service; and

WHEREAS, Humble despite his impressive military record, John Baptisto Fiore was also awarded the Army Commendation Medal for moving through intense enemy fire to provide first aid to a wounded comrade on April 2, 1969; and

WHEREAS, John Baptisto Fiore was honorably discharged from the United States Army in 1969, but continued serving his country as commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1819 in Port Washington and Nassau County VFW Council, as well as commander and chaplain of the American Legion Post 422 in Queens County; and

WHEREAS, As commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars posts in Nassau County and American Legion posts in Queens, he made sure someone was always in attendance at an "Unclaimed Veteran" burial; and

WHEREAS, A man of many talents and drive, John Baptisto Fiore served as a veterans' chaplain for many years, was employed as a car insurance adjuster, co-owned an auto body shop, and took care of his parents' Bronx grocery store; and

WHEREAS, With a deep love and compassion for helping fellow veterans, John Baptisto Fiore did everything in his power to ensure patriotism was valued in his sphere of influence as he worked tirelessly with election officials, municipalities, school clubs, businesses, and nonprofit organizations to provide programming and adequate facilities for the veterans in his community; and

WHEREAS, John Baptisto Fiore is survived by his son, John Fiore; and two sisters, Grace Cafaro and Ann Meredeth; and

WHEREAS, John Baptisto Fiore's 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, light and hope to the countless lives he touched; and

WHEREAS, Serving as an inspiration to fellow veterans, his family and the community, John Baptisto Fiore 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 honor the contributions and sacrifices of John Baptisto Fiore, a patriotic hero who devoted his life to serving our country as a member of its esteemed armed forces; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of John Baptisto Fiore.