

Senate Resolution No. 1403

BY: Senator HARCKHAM

MOURNING the death of Shawn Michael O'Mara, devoted father, honorable veteran, compassionate public servant, and beloved community leader

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor the life of distinguished citizens of the State of New York whose personal commitment, service, and dedication have strengthened their families, their communities, and this great State; and

WHEREAS, Shawn Michael O'Mara, a devoted father, beloved son, caring brother, and cherished friend, died on September 13, 2025, at the age of 53, leaving behind a legacy of service, compassion, and unwavering devotion to others; and

WHEREAS, Born on November 23, 1971, in Peekskill, New York, Shawn Michael O'Mara was raised with values of hard work, integrity, and service, which guided him throughout his life and career; and

WHEREAS, Following his graduation from high school, Shawn Michael O'Mara answered the call to serve his country by enlisting in the United States Navy in 1991, where he served with honor and valor as a Medic during Operation Desert Storm, and was honorably discharged in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Continuing his lifelong commitment to helping others, Shawn pursued a career in funeral service, earning an associate's degree from the American Academy McAllister Institute of Funeral Service in New York and becoming a licensed funeral director dedicated to providing comfort and dignity to families during their times of greatest need; and

WHEREAS, Shawn Michael O'Mara was the owner of All County Funeral Service and worked side by side with numerous funeral homes throughout the region, ultimately taking great personal pride in operating the O'Mara and Carpentieri Funeral Home in Verplanck, New York, where his compassion, professionalism, and tireless work ethic were widely respected; and

WHEREAS, His commitment to service extended well beyond his profession, as he faithfully served his community as Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners for the Verplanck Fire District and as a longtime, active member of the Verplanck Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Shawn was also deeply involved in civic and fraternal organizations, including the Mt. Carmel Society of Verplanck, the American Legion William J. Boyle Post, the Elks Club of Ossining, and the Free Masons Club of Verplanck, further exemplifying his dedication to community, fellowship, and public service; and

WHEREAS, Shawn Michael O'Mara is survived by his loving children, Gabriella, Shawn Michael Jr., and Jayla Rose; his mother, Elizabeth O'Mara; his sister, Kelley O'Mara Donovan (Daniel); his brother, Brian

O'Mara; his nieces, Danica and Haley Donovan; his nephew, Ryan O'Mara; and his loving companion, Michelle Mattson, along with many dear family members and friends who will forever cherish his memory; and

WHEREAS, He was predeceased by his father, Harold O'Mara, in November 1998, whose guidance and example continued to inspire Shawn throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Known for his warm smile, generous spirit, courage, and sense of fun, Shawn Michael O'Mara embodied the words of Winston Churchill: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give," and he indeed made a life rich in giving, love, and laughter; and

WHEREAS, Though his life was far too short, Shawn Michael O'Mara lived fully and purposefully, marked by unwavering dedication to his family, his country, and his community, leaving an enduring impact on all who had the privilege to know him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Shawn Michael O'Mara, and to honor his life of service, compassion, and commitment; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Shawn Michael O'Mara.