

Senate Resolution No. 224

**BY:** Senator HARCKHAM

**MOURNING** the death of Celeste Alma Patton,  
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 endeavors served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Celeste Alma Patton of Ossining, New York died on March 16, 2024 at the age of 70; and

**WHEREAS,** A lifelong Ossining resident, Celeste Alma Patton was born on March 31, 1953; she was a graduate of Ossining High School; furthering her education, she received degrees from Berkeley College and Pace University; and

**WHEREAS,** Embarking on her career, Celeste Alma Patton started working for a phone company, then for Hughes Sports Network and NBC Sports; after marrying her lifelong partner, Joe Clarke, she began her journey of motherhood and raised three beautiful daughters; and

**WHEREAS,** Earning her 15 years of service pin, Celeste Alma Patton was a devoted and beloved Girl Scout troop leader, who shouldered more than just her own troop responsibilities; and

**WHEREAS,** Once her children were old enough, Celeste Alma Patton re-entered the workforce, coordinating for Dominican Sisters Family Health Services until her retirement; she also began volunteering in her decade-long position at the St. Augustine Golden Eagles, whose membership grew to well over 100 seniors strong; she kept them active and current with organized weekly meetings, chair yoga, luncheons, Broadway plays, community outreaches, and specialized guest speakers; and

**WHEREAS,** Remaining active in the community, Celeste Alma Patton served as a board member for the Country Inn at Jiminy Peak; for more than a dozen years, she advocated, encouraged, and negotiated to satisfy the highest ADA standards; and

**WHEREAS,** An avid skier, Celeste Alma Patton joined the para-ski troop and skied using a sled for seven years amongst her many passions; and

**WHEREAS,** Celeste Alma Patton distinguished herself in her profession and by her sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of her community; and

**WHEREAS,** Celeste Alma Patton's commitment to excellence, and her spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise,

including charitable and civic endeavors; and

**WHEREAS,** Celeste Alma Patton is survived by her husband, Joseph Clarke, daughters, Kathleen, Maureen, and Eileen, grandchildren, Henry Clarke Gebhard, Brendan, and Michael O'Reilly, sister, Camille Patton, her niece Corinne Jackson, her nephew Brandt Hughes, and many cherished cousins and friends; and

**WHEREAS,** Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Celeste Alma Patton 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 Celeste Alma Patton, 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 Celeste Alma Patton.