Assembly Resolution No. 1497

BY: M. of A. Buttenschon

COMMENDING Walter Constantini upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Lake Delta Kiwanis Club of Rome on June 6, 2026

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those distinguished citizens of the State of New York whose purposeful lives and exemplary service contribute greatly to the strength and vitality of their communities and this great Nation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Walter Constantini upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Lake Delta Kiwanis Club of Rome, to be celebrated on Saturday, June 6, 2026, at Gone Coastal in Lee Center, New York; and

WHEREAS, Walter "Walt" Constantini has long distinguished himself through his steadfast dedication to his country, his community, and his fellow veterans, earning the admiration and respect of all who have had the privilege to know him; and

WHEREAS, Born in Mineola, New York, and raised in Bethel, Connecticut, Walter Constantini answered the call to serve his Nation by joining the United States Air Force in June of 1961; and

WHEREAS, Following completion of basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Walter Constantini attended technical school at Amarillo Air Force Base for jet engine training, beginning a distinguished military career marked by professionalism, commitment, and honor; and

WHEREAS, During his years of faithful military service, Walter Constantini was assigned to Ellsworth Air Force Base, Thule Air Force Base in Greenland, Sewart Air Force Base in Nashville, Tennessee, Dow Air Force Base in Bangor, Maine, RAF Lakenheath in England, Loring Air Force Base in Maine, and Griffiss Air Force Base in Rome, New York, where he concluded his exemplary Air Force career upon retirement; and

WHEREAS, Walter Constantini also proudly served with the last active squadron of General Claire Chennault's famed Flying Tigers while stationed at Dow Air Force Base, adding to a legacy of military excellence and dedication; and

WHEREAS, Following his retirement from the United States Air Force, Walter Constantini continued his strong work ethic and commitment to excellence in the private sector, dedicating 17 years to Orion Bus, three years to Carrier Air Conditioning, and nine years to Commander Aviation and Empire Aviation before his retirement; and

WHEREAS, Walter Constantini's devotion to veterans and civic service is further demonstrated through his extraordinary 48 years of membership

in the American Legion, during which time he served with distinction as Commander of the Lee Center American Legion Post for eight years, County Commander of the Oneida County American Legion, Oneida County Adjutant for two years, and Fifth District Chaplain for two years; and

WHEREAS, Walter Constantini has also found great fulfillment in his devotion to family; he shared 31 years of marriage with his beloved wife, Joanne, until her passing five years ago, and together they raised a loving family of five children, 11 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Walter Constantini has exemplified the highest ideals of patriotism, integrity, public service, and community spirit, leaving an enduring legacy of honorable achievement and selfless dedication; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Walter Constantini upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Lake Delta Kiwanis Club of Rome; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Walter Constantini.