

**BY:** Senator JORDAN

**COMMENDING** Robert F. Jette posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

**WHEREAS,** Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York, who have served so valiantly and honorably in wars in which this country's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace in peacetime, deserve a special salute from this Legislative Body; and

**WHEREAS,** This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Robert F. Jette posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate, to be presented at the Columbia County Honor a Deceased Veteran Ceremony on Monday, June 24, 2019; and

**WHEREAS,** The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by Resolution and is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers; and

**WHEREAS,** Robert F. Jette was born on November 3, 1943, to Lucille (Marcil) and Felix Jette in Adams, Massachusetts, where he attended both Notre Dame Elementary and Adams High School; after graduating, he earned his associate's degree from Berkshire Community College in 1963; and

**WHEREAS,** On September 11, 1963, Robert F. Jette enlisted in the United States Air Force and proudly served his country as a Senior Airman (SrA) with the 62 Fighter Interceptor Squadron at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base in Michigan; and

**WHEREAS,** SrA Robert F. Jette's Squadron was a part of the 410th Bombardment Wing (SAC) which was made up of the McDonnell F-101 (Voodoo) supersonic jet fighter; its mission was to maintain an alert against a Soviet bomber threat; and

**WHEREAS,** The remainder of SrA Robert F. Jette's enlistment would be servicing the weapons control systems of the F-101 squadron as it maintained the air defense in North America; and

**WHEREAS,** For his meritorious service, SrA Robert F. Jette was awarded the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, and the National Defense Medal; in August of 1967, he was recognized as Avionics Man of the Month, and in September of 1967, he was named Airman of the Month; and

**WHEREAS,** Upon the completion of his military service on September 10, 1969, Robert F. Jette returned to his hometown and received his bachelor's degree in finance from North Adams State College in 1977; he then worked as a financial hospital comptroller for Columbia Memorial

Hospital in Hudson, New York, retiring in 2013, after many years of service; and

**WHEREAS,** Active in his community, Robert F. Jette served as President of the Lions Club from 1983-1984, and was a communicant at St. John the Baptist church in Valatie, New York; he also volunteered his time and energies at the Valatie Food Pantry; and

**WHEREAS,** When he was not working or helping someone, Robert F. Jette enjoyed spending time outdoors, whether it was golfing, skiing, hiking or mountain climbing, and was an avid college basketball fan; he also loved watching his grandchildren play sports; and

**WHEREAS,** Robert F. Jette died on February 5, 2016, at the age of 72, and was buried in Bellevue Cemetery in Adams; he is survived by his wife, Jacqueline; one daughter, Lisa; one son, Ryan; and two grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS,** Residents of this great State must never forget the courage with which these men and women served their country, and must recognize that no greater debt is owed than that owed to those who gave their lives for their beloved Nation and to those who continue to be missing in action; and

**WHEREAS,** Having exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad, Robert F. Jette demonstrated his love for his country and merits forevermore the highest respect of his State and Nation; and

**WHEREAS,** Our Nation's veterans deserve to be recognized, commended and thanked by the people of the State of New York for their service and for their dedication to their communities, their State and their Nation; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Robert F. Jette posthumously upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Robert F. Jette.