

Senate Resolution No. 2923

BY: Senator LITTLE

MOURNING the death of Dr. Dan O'Keefe, prominent obstetrician-gynecologist, loving husband, father and grandfather, and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, There are certain outstanding members of our community who, through their selfless commitment and dedication, have served to better the quality of life in our community and have had a measurable positive impact on the lives of its residents; Dr. Dan O'Keefe was one such individual; and

WHEREAS, It is with great sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Dr. Dan O'Keefe, noting the significance of his purposeful life and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dan O'Keefe of Pilot Knob, New York, died on Sunday, February 23, 2020, at the age of 98; and

WHEREAS, Born on September 6, 1921, and raised in his beloved North Creek, New York, Dan O'Keefe was a star basketball player at Johnsbury Central School, ski champion, and avid hunter; he attended Holy Cross College before completing his medical education and training at Albany Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dan O'Keefe married the love of his life, the former Kathryn Gregory, and after proudly serving his country as a member of the United States Air Force, the couple settled in Glens Falls, New York; and

WHEREAS, In 1951, Dr. Dan O'Keefe began the practice that became Women's Care in Glens Falls, where he touched the lives of countless families as an obstetrician-gynecologist; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his illustrious career as a physician, which traversed more than 40 years, Dr. Dan O'Keefe delivered over 10,000 babies; and

WHEREAS, Legendary in his community, Dr. Dan O'Keefe was famous for his verbal "crickerisms" and blessed with the gift of gab; his laugh could fill a room and his love for all of humanity was unparalleled; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dan O'Keefe served as President of the Warren County Medical Society, St. Luke Physician's Guild, Warren County Chapter of the American Cancer Society, Medical Staff of the Glens Falls Hospital, and the New York State Medical Society; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he served on the Boards of New York State International College of Surgeons, Northeastern New York Comprehensive Health Board, Glens Falls Foundation, Leo Spain Foundation, and the Glens Falls Youth Center; and

WHEREAS, A truly remarkable physician, Dr. Dan O'Keefe was the Chief Gynecologist at the 1980 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 65, Dr. Dan O'Keefe decided to take up tennis and went on to become the Senior Olympic United States National Champion in his 80s; as President of the Glens Falls Tennis and Swim Club he raised substantial funds for the American Red Cross; and

WHEREAS, This extraordinary man also wrote and published four books: One **Heartbeat From Heaven: The Story of the O'Keefe Hunting Camp (1915-1965), Halfway To Heaven: Livin' in the "Crick", Ride Up - Slide Down: A History of Skiing at Gore Mountain, You Really Made Housecalls? The Practice and Politics of Medicine;** and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dan O'Keefe was very proud of his three children, Jim (Mary), Dan III (MaryHelen) and Kate (Jim), each of whom followed in his footsteps to become OB/GYN physicians; he is survived by nine grandchildren, Patrick, Michael, Jim, Tara, Marin, Chandra, Katie, Jamie and Kelly; as well as five great-grandchildren, Grant, Gracie, Daniel, Tyler and Ryn; and

WHEREAS, As a prominent leader in his profession, Dr. Dan O'Keefe proved himself to be a great asset to medicine and to the health and well-being of the women within his community; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dan O'Keefe, who displayed many exceptional talents and unique qualities, lived an immensely beautiful life built on compassion, kindness, and respect for others; and

WHEREAS, Through his profound words of wisdom, Dr. Dan O'Keefe's legacy of 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 and hope for all who were privileged to have known and loved such an amazing person; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Dr. Dan O'Keefe, prominent obstetrician-gynecologist, loving husband, father and grandfather, and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Dr. Dan O'Keefe.