

Senate Resolution No. 3200

BY: Senator HARCKHAM

MOURNING the death of Nicholas Modugno, longtime former coach and teacher, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his 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 endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Modugno of White Plains, New York, died on Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at the age of 91; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Modugno was born to Consiliga (DeBiase) and Rocco Di Modugno on March 29, 1929, in Scarsdale, New York; an exceptional athlete, he played baseball and graduated from Manhattan College with a master's degree in education; he then played baseball professionally in Europe before beginning his long and esteemed career as a physical education teacher and coach at the Valhalla School District in 1959; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his tenure, Nicholas Modugno was the coach for the tennis, gymnastics and track and field teams; for his many contributions and steadfast and unremitting commitment to his students and community, the new track was named in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Known to all as Mr. D or Coach D, Nicholas Modugno was much more than a coach and a teacher, he was a friend and mentor to many and touched thousands upon thousands of lives just by being himself; and

WHEREAS, Even after his retirement in 2000, after more than 40 years of service, Nicholas Modugno continued to be an ever-present figure within the Valhalla School District; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Modugno was a great man of faith and attended St. John's Church and loved to spend time with his beloved family; he also enjoyed music and taught himself to play the guitar and piano; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his twin brother John, Nicholas Modugno is survived by one daughter, Diana Modugno; one son, James (Lynne) Modugno; two grandchildren, Christina and Christopher; his former wife, Dorothy Bennett; one sister, Lucy Mercer; two nieces, Connie and Janet; one nephew, David; and one sister-in-law, Lorraine Di Modugno; as well as numerous former students, athletes and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Modugno was an outstanding educational leader whose dedication and achievements were truly instrumental in developing character and sportsmanship in youth, exemplifying the ideals and values cherished by this great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Nicholas Modugno leaves behind a legacy which will long

endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Nicholas Modugno, longtime former coach and teacher, distinguished citizen 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 Nicholas Modugno.