

BY: Senator BOYLE

MOURNING the death of Mary Ann Malack-Ragona, tireless advocate for families fighting Alzheimer's disease, distinguished citizen and devoted member of her community

WHEREAS, It is with profound sorrow that this Legislative Body, representing the people of the State of New York, is moved this day to pay tribute to an eminent woman of indomitable faith and dedication whose public service and countless accomplishments will forever stand as a paradigm and inspiration for others; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona, of Medford, New York, died on December 19, 2018, at the age of 70; and

WHEREAS, Executive Director/CEO of the Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center, Inc. (ADRC), Mary Ann Malack-Ragona leaves behind a legacy of efforts to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, which goes unmatched; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona joined what is now known as the Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center in February of 2003, and in 2004, opened The Neuwirth Family Care Center within the agency's Ronkonkoma office; and

WHEREAS, In 2011, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona moved the agency to a 9,000 square foot facility, adding The Mickey & Felice Neuwirth Care Center as a critical care component to the new Resource Center; that same year, she also opened a satellite office in Southampton, bringing much needed services to the East End of Long Island; and

WHEREAS, This extraordinary women was successful in obtaining approval, from the Institutional Review Board of North Shore/LIJ, to collaborate with the Litwin-Zucker Center for Memory Disorders & Alzheimer's Disease, bringing a comprehensive clinical evaluation research program to Long Island families; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona, in conjunction with her colleague, successfully launched a college accredited Alzheimer's Disease training program for professional caregivers; this curriculum has since trained over 600 individuals; and

WHEREAS, Prior to joining ADRC, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona was the Executive Director for the New York State Association of Temporary & Staffing Services, Inc., where she represented the staffing industry on a statewide level with Chapters located in Albany, Buffalo, Long Island, Metro New York, Rochester and Westchester; and

WHEREAS, Before returning to Organizational Management, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona was employed by UnitedHealthcare, one of the largest Health Plans in the country; she held several positions in the company,

including Product Manager/Project Coordinator for the Tri-State area; and

WHEREAS, From 1977 to 1992, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona was the Vice President and COO for Vinmar Service Stations, Inc., a corporation which operated major brand service stations on Long Island; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, she holds the distinction of being the first female President of the Trade Association, as well as the first female officer for its national association, Service Station Dealers of America; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona has served as an officer for Literacy Volunteers of America, Suffolk County; she also served on the Environmental & Energy Committee and the L.I. Action Coalition for the Long Island Association, the largest business association on Long Island; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to society, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona was appointed to the Governor's Task Force on Adult Care Facilities and Assisted Living Residences in January of 2005, as well as the Alzheimer's Disease Coordinating Council in 2008; she was also a member of the Long Term Care Councils in Nassau and Suffolk Counties; and

WHEREAS, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona has appeared on national television shows, including the NBC "Today Show," as well as local shows including, "Long Island Talks" and "Family Comes First"; she has also been quoted extensively in **Newsday**, Long Island's most read newspaper, **The New York Times**, **Suffolk Life**, and the **Long Island Advance**; and

WHEREAS, After graduating with distinguished honors from St. Joseph's College with a degree in Organizational Management and a minor in Human Resources Management, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona received a Masters of Business Administration from LIU/C.W. Post College of Management and Business; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by her father, Stephen; and her twin brother, Joseph, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona is survived by her mother, Martha; sister, Rosemary; two sons, Vincent Jr. and Joseph; and three grandchildren, Vincent III, Isabella and Joseph Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Mary Ann Malack-Ragona 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 Mary Ann Malack-Ragona, tireless advocate for families fighting Alzheimer's disease, 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 Mary Ann Malack-Ragona.