

**BY:** Senator PALUMBO

**MOURNING** the death of Zbigniew Wilinski,  
distinguished citizen 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; Zbigniew Wilinski was one such individual; and

**WHEREAS,** It is with profound sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Zbigniew Wilinski, noting the significance of his purposeful life and accomplishments; and

**WHEREAS,** Zbigniew "Ziggy" Wilinski, of Riverhead, New York, died on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at the age of 74; and

**WHEREAS,** Born in Germany on June 21, 1946, Zbigniew Wilinski was the son of Stanislaw and Aurelia (Sottysiak) Wilinski; and

**WHEREAS,** The eldest of three siblings, Zbigniew Wilinski and his family immigrated to the United States, via Ellis Island, when he was a child; growing up, he was very into sports and learned pride for his Polish heritage through his parents; and

**WHEREAS,** A member of Riverhead High School Class of 1964, Zbigniew Wilinski went on to graduate from Suffolk County Community College; he worked for the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) before proudly serving his country as a member of the United States Army from 1968 to 1971; and

**WHEREAS,** Upon the completion of his valiant military service, Zbigniew Wilinski returned to the USPS, eventually becoming Riverhead Postmaster and a Regional Manager; and

**WHEREAS,** Zbigniew Wilinski and the former Wanda Bondarowicz were united in marriage on July 15, 1972, at St. Isidore's Church in Riverhead; and

**WHEREAS,** With a steadfast and unwavering commitment to both his community and his heritage, Zbigniew Wilinski was a longtime commander of the Riverhead Polish Hall and a driving force behind organizing the popular Polish Festival, which draws thousands of people every August; and

**WHEREAS,** A true icon in Riverhead's Polish community, Zbigniew Wilinski served as president and manager of Riverhead Polish Hall, and as a member of the Riverhead Polish Independent Club; he was a congregant at St. Isidore's Church in Riverhead, and a past member of the St. Isidore School Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS,** Furthermore, in recognition of his tireless devotion to his community, the Riverhead Town Board will ceremoniously rename the portion of Marcy Avenue around the Polish Hall, "Ziggy's Way," in his honor; and

**WHEREAS,** Zbigniew Wilinski was an avid Mets fan who loved music and polka dancing; while he was passionate about many things, above all his greatest passion was spending time with his beloved grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS,** An eminent man of indomitable faith and dedication, Zbigniew Wilinski will be remembered as a sincere and kind man with a big smile who loved his family and his community, and whose public service will forever stand as a paradigm and inspiration for others; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition to his wife, Zbigniew Wilinski he is survived by his two children, Michelle and Mark (Sharon); his siblings, Barbara Kolpak and Roman (Cathy); and two grandchildren, Adam and Austin; and

**WHEREAS,** Zbigniew Wilinski's 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, light and hope to the countless lives he touched; and

**WHEREAS,** Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Zbigniew Wilinski leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all who were privileged to have known and loved such an amazing man; he will be deeply missed and truly merits the grateful tribute of this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Zbigniew Wilinski, 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 Zbigniew Wilinski.