Assembly Resolution No. 482

BY: M. of A. Simpson

MOURNING the death of James T. Kneeshaw, admired educator, proud veteran, 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, James T. Kneeshaw of Queensbury, New York, died on Saturday, December 17, 2022, at the age of 87; and

WHEREAS, James T. Kneeshaw distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, He graduated from Bolton High School and SUNY Plattsburgh with teaching and administrative degrees; and

WHEREAS, Spending much time in the classroom, James T. Kneeshaw taught in Trumansburg, New York, at Queensbury School where he retired as Principal, and at Ticonderoga Central School, where he served as the Superintendent for three years; and

WHEREAS, After his first year of teaching in Trumansburg, James T. Kneeshaw enlisted in the Navy, proudly serving for five years; he attended flight school training in Pensacola, Florida, and was assigned to Replacement Air Group VF-121 and trained to fly the F3H Demon Aircraft, becoming a "Demon Driver" Pilot in Flight Squadron VF-151 Carrier Group 15, which was assigned to the U.S.S. Coral Sea; and

WHEREAS, James T. Kneeshaw made the first of his 200 landings on May 17, 1960, in the Western Pacific, achieving the designation of being a Double Centurion Naval Aviator; completing his active-duty military service in July of 1962, he then became a reservist in the Navy Reserve Unit in Glens Falls; and

WHEREAS, An active resident of his community, James T. Kneeshaw owned and operated the Rondack Motel and Cottages, served on the Bolton Planning and Zoning Boards, worked summers on the Lake George Marine Patrol, and joined the Civil Air Patrol as well; and

WHEREAS, Most recently, he completed 17 years of service with the Lake George Park Commission Board of Directors, applying his life's passion to the protection of Lake George; and

WHEREAS, James T. Kneeshaw's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, In his retirement, James T. Kneeshaw enjoyed sailing, hiking in the Adirondack high peaks, skiing, running, and spending time with his loving family; and

WHEREAS, James T. Kneeshaw is survived by his long-time partner Betty Little, his sisters, Elizabeth and Maureen, his four beloved children, Holly, Wendy, Kelly, and James, and many cherished grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, James T. Kneeshaw also enjoyed the company of his long-time partner's extended family, her children, their spouses, and 18 grandchildren, all of whom affectionately called him "Papa Jim"; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, James T. Kneeshaw 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 James T. Kneeshaw, admired educator, proud veteran, 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 James T. Kneeshaw.