

Senate Resolution No. 1946

**BY:** Senator O'MARA

**HONORING** the 33 Purple Heart recipients interred at the New York State Veterans Cemetery-Finger Lakes, on May 25, 2026

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those distinguished veterans who have served the United States of America with honor, courage, and dedication, and who have demonstrated extraordinary valor in defense of our Nation; and

**WHEREAS,** This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor 33 recipients of the Purple Heart who are interred at the New York State Veterans Cemetery-Finger Lakes, and to recognize their enduring legacy of sacrifice and service; and

**WHEREAS,** The Purple Heart, established by General George Washington during the Revolutionary War, is awarded to members of the Armed Forces who have been wounded or killed in action while serving our Nation, symbolizing their bravery, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to liberty; and

**WHEREAS,** The New York State Veterans Cemetery-Finger Lakes stands as a solemn and perpetual memorial dedicated to honoring the service and sacrifice of our Nation's veterans, and serves as a place of reflection, remembrance, and gratitude for generations to come; and

**WHEREAS,** The Friends of the New York State Veterans Cemetery-Finger Lakes, a dedicated volunteer organization, continues to uphold the highest standards and values of this hallowed ground, ensuring that the memory of those interred there is preserved with dignity and honor; and

**WHEREAS,** On Memorial Day, May 25, 2026, a special ceremony will be held to honor these brave veterans, marking not only a day of remembrance but also the 250th Anniversary of our Nation's Independence, and offering a meaningful opportunity to express collective gratitude for their sacrifice; and

**WHEREAS,** Among those honored are the following distinguished Purple Heart recipients: Francis E. Bell, Sr., United States Marine Corps, Corporal; David R. Bellomo, United States Navy, Hospital Corpsman Third Class; Ronald M. Carragher, United States Marine Corps, Lance Corporal; Donald B. Cody, United States Army, Private First Class; David Lynn Darling, United States Marine Corps, Private First Class; Ronald De Yulio, United States Army, Sergeant; Bill E. English, United States Marine Corps, Staff Sergeant; Robert S. Feltenberger, United States Army, Sergeant; Matt M. Flood, Jr., United States Army, Private First Class; William H. Foster, Jr., United States Marine Corps, Corporal; David A. Fournier, United States Marine Corps, Corporal; Charles J. Franchot, United States Marine Corps, Corporal; Edward C. Freeman, United States Marine Corps, Corporal; Earl L. Hayward, United States Navy, Boatswain's Mate Third Class; John L. Keilen, United States Marine

Corps, Sergeant; Martin L. Keymel, United States Army, Specialist Fourth Class; Elmer C. Kidd, United States Army, Corporal; John R. Laude, United States Army, Private; Ervin D. Lincourt, United States Army, Specialist Fifth Class; Michael James Maney, United States Army, Sergeant; Bruce K. Manning, United States Army, Corporal; Gregory E. Martin, United States Marine Corps, Lance Corporal; Thomas A. Mayfield, United States Army, Specialist Fourth Class; Raymond J. Modzel, United States Army, Staff Sergeant; Angelo G. Montaglione, United States Army, Private First Class; Angelo D. Palleschi, United States Army, Staff Sergeant; Thomas L. Petrosino, Jr., United States Army, Specialist Fifth Class; Sanford M. Rowe, United States Army, Technician Fourth Class; William W. Sheppard, United States Army, Private First Class; Charles D. Snyder, United States Army, Corporal; Francis L. Viehmann, United States Army, Captain; Edmund W. Walczyk, United States Army, Private First Class; and Robert M. Wojchowski, United States Marine Corps, Sergeant; and

**WHEREAS,** These distinguished veterans rendered faithful and honorable service to their Nation, demonstrating exceptional courage and steadfast devotion to duty, and bearing the wounds of war in defense of the freedoms we cherish; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor and pay tribute to the 33 Purple Heart recipients interred at the New York State Veterans Cemetery-Finger Lakes, recognizing their extraordinary service and sacrifice; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Friends of the New York State Veterans Cemetery-Finger Lakes and to the families of these honored veterans.