

BY: Senator ADDABBO

MOURNING the death of Lou Carnesecca, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, A legendary coach and ambassador for the sport of basketball, Lou Carnesecca passed away on Saturday, November 30, 2024, leaving behind a remarkable legacy that will be forever remembered by the St. John's University community, the basketball world, and all those whose lives he touched throughout his illustrious career; and

WHEREAS, Lou Carnesecca devoted his life to the game of basketball, impacting the lives of countless student-athletes, fans, and colleagues throughout his remarkable career, earning him a reputation as one of the most respected coaches in college basketball history; and

WHEREAS, For more than two decades, Lou Carnesecca served as Head Coach of the St. John's University Men's Basketball Team, from 1965 to 1982 and 1985 to 1992, leading the program to national prominence, numerous NCAA Tournament appearances, and Big East Conference championships; and

WHEREAS, Coach Lou Carnesecca's contributions to the growth and success of college basketball, particularly within the Big East Conference, are immeasurable, as he helped elevate the stature of St. John's University and solidified its place as a premier basketball program; he also contributed to the development of numerous future NBA stars, most notably Chris Mullin who became one of the greatest players in the history of the program; and

WHEREAS, A vibrant personality, charismatic coaching style, and iconic fashion, including his signature colorful sweaters, made Lou Carnesecca a beloved figure on the sidelines and a cherished part of basketball culture; and

WHEREAS, Coach Lou Carnesecca was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1992, cementing his legacy as one of the greatest coaches in the history of college basketball; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Coach Lou Carnesecca was a tireless advocate for the values of sportsmanship, teamwork, and education, inspiring generations of young people to pursue excellence not only in sports but also in life, earning the respect and admiration of his peers, players, and fans alike; and

WHEREAS, Lou Carnesecca's influence extends far beyond basketball, as he remains a beloved figure in the St. John's community and across the world of college athletics; his passing leaves a profound void in the world of college basketball, yet his memory will continue to inspire future generations, reminding us of the power of sports to shape lives and build communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor and commemorate the extraordinary life and contributions of Lou Carnesecca whose legacy as a coach, mentor, and leader will endure for generations to come; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Lou Carnesecca, extending deepest sympathy and gratitude for his lifelong commitment to the game of basketball, the students he mentored, and the lasting impact he had on St. John's University, the Big East Conference, and the broader basketball community.