Assembly Resolution No. 932

BY: M. of A. Lupardo

CELEBRATING the life and accomplishments of Richard Hugo "Dick" Testa, distinguished citizen and devoted member of the Endicott community and Union-Endicott Central School District

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavors have served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Richard Hugo "Dick" Testa of Endicott, New York, died on January 6, 2026, at the age of 82; and

WHEREAS, Dick Testa distinguished himself through a lifetime of service, leadership, and generosity, leaving an indelible mark on the Union-Endicott Central School District and the greater Endicott community; and

WHEREAS, A proud graduate of Union-Endicott High School, Class of 1961, Dick Testa went on to graduate from Syracuse University in 1965 before honorably serving two years in the United States Army; following his military service, he returned to Endicott, where he spent the remainder of his life devoted to family, faith, education, and community service; and

WHEREAS, A lifelong parishioner of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Dick Testa was a man of deep faith who served as an altar server both in his youth and later years, and whose life was guided by a strong moral compass and devotion to others; and

WHEREAS, Dick Testa was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, and uncle; he was predeceased by his mother, Mary (Paluzzi) Testa, his father, Hugo Testa, and his stepmother, Hattie (Rhodes) Testa; he is survived by his loving wife, Nancy (Deck) Testa; his son, Derrick Testa and partner Alex Kilpatrick; his daughter, Jennifer Testa Cottini and husband Luca; and his cherished grandchildren, Stefano, Caterina, and Teresa; as well as his brother, Jim Testa and wife Sue; his sister, Susan Zappia and husband Fred; and numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family members; and

WHEREAS, Professionally, Dick Testa worked in a variety of roles throughout his life, including years at Zappia Athletic Products, as a local sportswriter for The Valley News, and as co-owner of The Sports Page for more than 30 years; however, it was his unpaid service to others that most defined his life's work; and

WHEREAS, Dick Testa dedicated more than 25 years to the Union-Endicott Board of Education, serving with integrity, wisdom, and unwavering commitment to students; he was a charter member of the Union-Endicott Education Foundation and volunteered thousands of hours

as a special reader in Union-Endicott elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, His extraordinary commitment to community service extended to his involvement with Endicott Sertoma, Endicott Youth Baseball, the West Endicott Fire Department, Endicott Proud, American Legion Post 82, and numerous other civic and charitable organizations; and

WHEREAS, Sports and coaching were central to Dick Testa's life and legacy; an accomplished high school cross country runner, he won the inaugural Conwicke-Stock Cross Country Meet and remained a steadfast supporter of the sport throughout his life; his 37 years with Endicott Youth Baseball included coaching Kelly's to multiple championships, and his dedication was memorialized with the naming of Testa Field in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Dick Testa also served as an assistant coach for Our Lady of Good Counsel's varsity basketball team during its Broome County CYO Championship season in 1973, and as coach of the American Legion Post 82 baseball team, culminating in a New York State Championship in 1983; he further coached and mentored countless young athletes, including his own children, instilling values of teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his profound impact, Dick Testa received numerous honors, including induction into the Union-Endicott Alumni Having Made a Difference, the Union-Endicott Athletic Hall of Fame, the PTA Founder's Day Award, multiple honors as Endicott Sertoma of the Year, and recognition as Founder and Co-Chairperson of the Endicott Proud Board Advisory Team; and

WHEREAS, Dick Testa will be fondly remembered for his quick wit, positive spirit, unmistakable green wardrobe, unwavering Tiger Pride, and enduring love for Notre Dame; his influence on generations of students, athletes, and community members is far-reaching and lasting; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a compassionate heart and a steadfast commitment to service, Dick Testa leaves behind a legacy that will long endure the passage of time and remain a source of inspiration and comfort to all who knew him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Dick Testa and to express its deepest condolences to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Richard Hugo "Dick" Testa.