

## 2023-K2114

Assembly Resolution No. 2114

BY: M. of A. Braunstein

MOURNING the death of Paul Vallone, beloved lawmaker, devoted family man, and distinguished 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; Paul Vallone was one such individual; and

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

WHEREAS, Deputy Commissioner of Veterans' Services and former City Councilman, Paul Vallone died on Sunday, January 28, 2024, at the age of 56; a renowned New York City leader, his name and photo were in lights at Citi Field on Monday, January 29, 2024, memorializing his legacy, and City Hall flags flew at half-mast in his honor; and

WHEREAS, A resident of Queens, New York, Paul Vallone was a beacon of light in every room he entered; his infectious smile and warm spirit touched the lives of everyone he encountered; his unwavering love for his family was evident in every gesture, every word spoken, and every moment shared; he was a pillar of strength and support, as well as a

constant source of encouragement and guidance to those he held dear; and

WHEREAS, Paul Vallone came from one of the most storied political families in Queens, with a record of public service stretching back decades; he was the son of Peter Vallone Sr., the City Council's first speaker, and the grandson of Charles Vallone Sr., a civil court judge; Paul's brother, Peter Jr., succeeded his father on the Council before following in his grandfather's footsteps and joining the civil court bench; their brother Perry is a consultant with Constantinople and Vallone; and

WHEREAS, During his three-term, eight-year tenure on the City Council, Paul Vallone focused on education; early in his career when he represented northeast Queens, he helped reinstate the New York City Council Merit Scholarship, also known as the Peter F. Vallone Academic Scholarship, through which qualified students could receive up to \$350 per semester; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, he worked to add 4,500 school seats in District 19, including an upcoming elementary school in Bay Terrace, and spearheaded a 10-plus-year effort to renovate Bowne Park, which was completed last spring; and

WHEREAS, Paul Vallone worked tirelessly to find common ground and to bring people together; throughout his time in office, the blue-collar community he represented knew they had a fighter from the neighborhood representing them in City Hall; and

WHEREAS, In that role and as a member of the administration, Paul Vallone was a committed advocate for veterans, faithfully serving those who have served our country; and

WHEREAS, Paul Vallone not only carried on his family's immense legacy of service - he personified and embodied it; he inspired his colleagues every single day to be better elected officials, however, it is perhaps his lessons in friendship, family and fatherhood that those lucky enough to have worked with him will cherish for the rest of time; Queens is truly a better borough because of Paul; and

WHEREAS, Coming from a musical family, Paul Vallone enjoyed playing the drums and singing; he also had a well-documented love of Christmas, and on the 25th day of every month, he was known to countdown how many months were left until the holiday; and

WHEREAS, While he was passionate about many things, above all his greatest passion was being a husband and father; in addition to his parents, brothers and extended family, Paul Vallone is survived by his wife, Anna-Marie; son, Charlie; and daughters, Catena and Lea; and

WHEREAS, Paul Vallone'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, Paul Vallone 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 Paul Vallone, 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 Paul Vallone.