

2013-J2793

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION paying tribute to Raymond P. Urtz posthumously upon the occasion of having a building named in his honor to be celebrated at a Dedication on October 29, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those exemplary individuals within the Empire State who made strong contributions to their communities and who inspired others through their model citizenship and noble deeds; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to pay tribute to Raymond P. Urtz posthumously upon the occasion of having a building named in his honor to be celebrated at a Dedication on Tuesday, October 29, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Raymond P. Urtz is being saluted for his many accomplishments including a long career with the Rome Air Force research lab, and his key role in the lab remaining in Rome, New York, despite a 1995 Air Force attempt to close it; and

WHEREAS, Raymond P. Urtz, retired Director, Information Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory, Rome, New York, died on October 8, 2012, at the age of 73; and

WHEREAS, He was a gifted visionary who guided the Information Directorate during turbulent times through two BRACs and the transition of Rome Laboratory to Air Force Research Laboratory; the strength and stature of the Information Directorate today is due in large part to his vision to consolidate people and facilities into a new complex and to provide added focus on the lab's research in cyber technology; and

WHEREAS, Raymond P. Urtz had both a strong commitment to serve his nation and a genuine love for his community; he was truly a great leader and an exceptional mentor to the people who worked for him; his contributions to the lab, to the Air Force and to the advancement of knowledge

are great; he has truly left his mark on the institution; and

WHEREAS, Born on July 11, 1939, in Utica, New York, the son of the late Raymond and Margaret Myrtle Kelly Urtz, Raymond P. Urtz graduated from LaSalle Academy in New York City, received a Bachelor's degree in Physics from Manhattan College in 1961, a Master's degree in Systems Management from the University of Southern California in 1974, and graduated in 1986 from the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Raymond P. Urtz was united in marriage to the former Maureen Murphy on August 26, 1961, in St. Mary's Church, Flushing, New York; and

WHEREAS, A member of St. Paul's Church, Raymond P. Urtz had a 44 year career at Griffiss Air Force Base, starting as a physicist in 1961 at RADC and retiring as Director of Rome Lab in 2005; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable man was the recipient of many awards and accolades, including the Harold Brown Award for excellence in research and development in 1982, Harry Davis Award for research and development accomplishments in 1983, and the Presidential Meritorious Rank Award in both 1993 and 2000; and

WHEREAS, Raymond P. Urtz served as the Board Chair for Griffiss Local Development Corporation, the Griffiss Institute and the Central New York Defense Alliance; in 2005, he received a Leading EDGE Award and an Outstanding Civilian Career Service Award from the Air Force for more than four decades of distinguished service; and

WHEREAS, He was an avid reader and would often be seen walking at a fast pace along the streets and sidewalks of Rome, New York; and

WHEREAS, His personal life revolved around his family; Raymond P. Urtz had a tremendous love for his wife, the late Maureen, as well as his children and grandchildren; he is survived by two daughters and their

spouses, Bernadette Jean Urtz and Marcus Rebick, and Eileen Mary Urtz and Christopher Schoberl; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Margaret Mutz, and Mary and James Curran; and four grandchildren, Adam Rebick,

and Molly, Zachary and Ethan Schoberl; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Raymond P. Urtz displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Raymond P. Urtz's life was a portrait of service, a legacy which will long endure the passage of time, and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to reflect upon those outstanding individuals who have made everlasting contributions on behalf of their fellow man and have truly left their mark on this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to pay tribute to Raymond P. Urtz posthumously upon the occasion of having a building named in his honor, to be celebrated at a Dedication on October 29, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Raymond P. Urtz.