

2013-J3227

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Gerard M. Lehner posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor-A-Veteran Ceremony on October 7, 2013

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York, who has served so valiantly and honorably in wars in which this country's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace in peacetime, deserve a special salute; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Gerard M. "Bud" Lehner posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor-A-Veteran Ceremony; the ceremony was held Monday, October 7, 2013, at the Robert L. Weininger Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 8692; and

WHEREAS, In June of 1993, a committee was formed by the Albany County Veterans Bureau known as the Albany County Honor-A-Veteran Committee; the committee was formed to honor a deceased Albany County veteran, who has served his country in time of conflict; the Honor-A-Veteran Program takes place monthly on the first Monday of each month; and

WHEREAS, Gerard Lehner was born on January 6, 1924, in Queens, New York; he lived most of his adult life in Albany County; and

WHEREAS, Gerard Lehner served his country as a member of the United States Navy during World War II as a Petty Officer 1st Class on the USS Sullivan's DD537 from 1942-1946; he served a second time from 1951-1952 on the USS Snowden DE246; and

WHEREAS, Gerard Lehner was the recipient of numerous awards and medals in recognition of his outstanding service, including: the Victory Medal, the Philippine Liberation Medal, two Battle Stars, and the Combat Action Ribbon; and

WHEREAS, When the war ended, Gerard Lehner went to work for Western Electric Company until his retirement in 1979; thereafter, he volunteered his time restoring historical ships and fulfilled his passion for woodwork and reading; and

WHEREAS, Gerard Lehner was a devout family man, and is survived by his beloved wife, Florence, six loving daughters, one sister, 14 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Residents of this great State must never forget the courage with which these men and women served their country, and must recognize that no greater debt is owed than that owed to those who gave their lives for their beloved Nation and to those who continue to be missing in action; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited their patriotism both at home and abroad, these men and women demonstrated their love for their country and merit forevermore, the highest respect of their State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Our Nation's veterans deserve to be recognized, commended and thanked by the people of the State of New York for their service and for their dedication to their communities, their State and their Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Gerard M. Lehner posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Albany County at its Honor-A-Veteran Ceremony on October 7, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Gerard M. Lehner.