

2013-J4605

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Charles Clayton Pratt Jr. posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Rensselaer County at its Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony on May 12, 2014

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York, who have 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, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend those who have served in times of active conflict, as well as those who have served in times of peace; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Charles Clayton Pratt Jr. posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Rensselaer County at its Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony on Monday, May 12, 2014, at the Rensselaer County Office Building's Hall of Heroes, Troy, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Hall of Heroes is a Memorial Display honoring those courageous men and women of Rensselaer County, past and present, who serve their country in a time of conflict; the Honor-A-Deceased Veteran Ceremony, held monthly, is a celebration of an honoree's civilian life, military career, and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Charles Clayton Pratt Jr. of Troy, New York, was born February 17, 1933, to Charles Clayton Pratt Sr. and Helen Ester (Coonradt) Pratt; he attended Troy public schools before enlisting with the United States Air Force in August 1955; and

WHEREAS, Charles Pratt served his country with honor and distinction for more than 22 years, earning the Air Force Longevity Service Award and the Good Conduct Medal; and

WHEREAS, Upon separating from his distinguished service with the rank of Staff Sergeant in February 1972, Charles Pratt worked at the Watervliet Arsenal, from which he eventually retired; and

WHEREAS, Charles Pratt was devoted to his family; he was married to the former Patricia Harriet Johnston, and the proud father of Denise, Lori, Charles, Robin, David, Carol and Kelly; he especially delighted in spending time with his many grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Charles Pratt, a lifetime member of Veterans of Lansingburgh, continually exhibited his patriotism both at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, He died May 27, 2012, and was buried at Saratoga National Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, For his courageous and dedicated service in the United States military, Charles Clayton Pratt Jr.'s name will be added to the Hall of Heroes on a plaque listing other deceased veterans honored in 2014; in addition, his family will receive a flag that has been flown over the United States Capital in his honor, as well as a plaque; 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 Charles Clayton Pratt Jr. posthumously upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Rensselaer County at its Honor-A-

Deceased Veteran Ceremony on May 12, 2014; and be it further
RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Charles Clayton Pratt Jr.