

2013-K1436

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION celebrating the life of Jack Schlegel of Mount Tremper, New York, World War II Veteran, Distinguished Citizen and Devoted Member of his Community

WHEREAS, It is with great sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Jack Schlegel, World War II veteran, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community, noting the significance of his purposeful life and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Jack Schlegel of Mount Tremper, New York, passed away on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at the age of 90 just days after taking part in a 70th anniversary ceremony while in failing health, alongside President Barack H. Obama at the Normandy American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer, France where he bravely fought; and

WHEREAS, A decorated World War II hero who escaped from German capture multiple times, fought in the Battle of the Bulge, Jack Schlegel was among the members of the 508th Infantry Regiment of the United States Army's 82nd Airborne unit who fought on D-Day; the road on which this courageous soldier landed in the town of Picaucville was named in his honor forty years later; and

WHEREAS, Jack Schlegel was born in Germany, emigrated to the United States with his parents in 1930 at the age of seven, and joined the United States Army's elite airborne division in 1942; and

WHEREAS, Upon his return to the United States after the war, Jack Schlegel eventually settled in Ulster County where he started a family and became engaged in local civic life; and

WHEREAS, Jack Schlegel distinguished himself in his professions and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his neighbors; and

WHEREAS, He served as a Police Officer in Shandaken, New York, where

he was also a two-term Town Supervisor; in addition he was the owner and operator of Schlegel Security Agency in Ulster County; and

WHEREAS, A co-founder and life member of the Ulster County Chiefs of Police, Jack Schlegel was also a part of the 82nd Airborne Association, American Legion Post 950 in Phoenicia, New York, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Mount Tremper Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Jack Schlegel was beloved and widely admired in his community and he will be remembered for his gentlemanly manner, tremendous spirit, kindness and compassion for others; and

WHEREAS, Devoted to tradition, Schlegel returned to France every June 6th to commemorate the D-Day invasion; five years ago he participated in a tandem parachute jump into the same area where he landed in 1944; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his wife of 48 years, Elaine (Knapp) Schlegel, and their youngest son, Martin, Jack Schlegel is survived by his son, George G. Schlegel; his daughter, Susan LaBudde; as well as two granddaughters, Jennifer and Jessica LaBudde; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, Jack Schlegel leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Jack Schlegel, World War II veteran, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Jack Schlegel.