

## 2015-J490

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Arnold R. Baum, retired U.S.A.F. Major, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, The quality and character of life in this Nation, and the great State of New York, is reflective of the purposeful lives and good works of those patriotic and civic-minded community members who dedicate their lives and careers to the service of others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to publicly mourn the death of those prominent citizens whose lifework and purposeful endeavors have served to enrich and enhance the quality and character of life for others in their community and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Arnold R. Baum, a fourth generation resident of Callicoon, New York, died on Sunday, February 1, 2015, at the age of 90 at his family residence which he affectionately called "Baum-e-Lot"; and

WHEREAS, Arnold R. Baum was born on May 27, 1924, in Union City, New Jersey, to the late Adam Rheinhold Baum and Margaretha K. Arnold Baum; and

WHEREAS, Arnold R. Baum graduated from Delaware Valley Central School in Callicoon, New York, where he broke the Western Sullivan High School League track record for the mile race; and

WHEREAS, He went on to earn his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Syracuse University, and a Master of Science degree in Education from the University of Southern California; furthermore, Arnold R. Baum completed additional studies in International Relations and Economics at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom; and

WHEREAS, During World War II, Arnold R. Baum proudly served his country as a member of the United States Infantry; he was an active participant in the European Theatre which included combat action in the Battle

of the Bulge with the 291st Infantry Regiment, 75th Infantry Division;

and

WHEREAS, After the War, Arnold R. Baum returned to his beloved hometown and entered the insurance business; he also met and married his wife, Patricia Ann Caffrey; and

WHEREAS, Arnold R. Baum joined the local Air Force Reserve unit and was appointed a 2nd Lieutenant, USAF; in 1950, he was recalled to active duty due to the outbreak of the Korean conflict; at this point he decided to embark on a military career and served during both the Korea and Vietnam conflicts; and

WHEREAS, Throughout Lieutenant Arnold R. Baum's illustrious military career, he was awarded the Bronze Star, Combat Infantry Badge, United States Air Force Commendation Medal, and three Campaign Battle Stars for WWII European Theatre; and

WHEREAS, After retiring from the United States Air Force in 1970, Major Arnold R. Baum earned a New York State Permanent Certification; he held the positions of Teacher, Principal, and Education Director/ Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, Along with his wife, Arnold R. Baum also owned and operated a real estate rental and management business; and

WHEREAS, Arnold R. Baum's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Arnold R. Baum consistently devoted his energy to the Callicoon community; he acted as Town of Delaware Councilman, and both Board Member and President of the Delaware Valley Central School District; in addition, he was a Trustee and Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of

Directors of the Hortonville Cemetery Association for more than 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Arnold R. Baum served as both a member of the Citizens Advisory Board to the Callicoon Delaware Valley Job Corps and

the Sullivan County Industrial Development Agency (I.D.A.), as well as Commissioner of the Sullivan County Conditional Release Commission; and WHEREAS, Moreover, Arnold R. Baum held several other civic roles and earned numerous awards for his efforts; he was most proud of his work with the Hortonville Cemetery Association and the VFW Post 5808; and WHEREAS, In addition to his loving wife, Arnold R. Baum is survived by his two daughters, Valerie Ann (Christopher) Lingeman and Willow Ann Baum; son-in-law Michael Lundgren; and two grandchildren, Anton and Adam Lingeman; as well as four step-grandchildren, Nicholas, Chloe, Madeleine, and Clayton Lundgren; and WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Arnold R. Baum 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 Arnold R. Baum, retired U.S.A.F. Major, 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 Arnold R. Baum.