

2015-J770

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Mayor Andrew J. Parise, renowned public servant, distinguished citizen, and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to mourn publicly the death of certain prominent individuals whose valued contributions to their community, their profession, and their heritage served to enhance the quality of life in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Longtime Cedarhurst mayor and lifetime Five Towns resident, Mayor Andrew J. Parise, died on Sunday, February 8, 2015, at the age of 90; and

WHEREAS, Born April 24, 1924, as one of six siblings, Andrew J. Parise grew up in Inwood, New York, and graduated from Lawrence High School in 1942; and

WHEREAS, A true American hero, Andrew J. Parise honorably served in the United States Army during the Second World War; he was assigned to the 87th Infantry Division 312 Combat Engineers from February 1943 to December 1945; and

WHEREAS, Andrew J. Parise fought in the Battle of the Bulge and in France, Belgium and Luxembourg; his unit also entered the Buchenwald concentration camp, and he earned two Purple Hearts for his exceptional military service; and

WHEREAS, In 1945, Andrew J. Parise married his childhood sweetheart, Lillian Oliviero, and together they raised three beautiful children, Andrew Jr., Louise, and David; and

WHEREAS, Andrew J. Parise was a public servant for more than six decades; in 1954, he was a Legislative Aide to the New York State Assembly, and two years later he began an illustrious 40-year career with the Town of Hempstead, where he worked as the Chief of Staff for seven

supervisors; and

WHEREAS, In 1958, this esteemed man established the first purchasing department for any town in New York, and served as its first Director; he also founded Hempstead's Employees Federal Credit Union and, since 1971, was on the Cedarhurst Village Board where he served as Deputy Mayor and became Mayor in 1995; and

WHEREAS, Mayor of Cedarhurst for the past two decades, Andrew J. Parise was beloved by his village and by the thousands of friends and colleagues whose lives he touched so deeply through countless acts of caring, generosity and kindness; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Andrew J. Parise distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; his commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, In 2011, Cedarhurst Park was renamed Andrew J. Parise Cedarhurst Park; its namesake, aided by local organizations, refurbished the park, creating a water park as well as the memorial area, and built a baseball field; his administration, in partnership with local businesses, established the summer concert series in the park's gazebo; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Andrew J. Parise was sincerely loved and greatly respected by all those with whom he worked; committed to his community, the people he represented, his State, and his Nation, he served his public with dignity, dedication and incisive wisdom; and

WHEREAS, Over a long and meritorious life of service on behalf of others, Mayor Andrew J. Parise was a man of action, of integrity, and of commitment, whose true compassion was generously given to all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by his wife of 49 years, Lillian; two brothers, Joseph (Ann) and Frank (Kay); and a sister, Phyllis (Joe), Mayor Andrew J. Parise is survived by his children, Andrew Jr. (Deborah), Louise, and

David (Mary Lynn); his five grandchildren, Kristen (Gordon), Robert (Emily), Jamie (Josh), Erica (Alex), and Jessica (Devin); five great-grandchildren, Courtney, Brooke, Page, Mia and Maddie; two brothers, Louis (Eleanor) and Dominic (Margaret); and his loving companion, JoMarie; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit, imbued with a sense of compassion, and comforted by a loving family, Mayor Andrew J. Parise 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 Mayor Andrew J. Parise, renowned public servant, 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 Mayor Andrew J. Parise.