



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

George D. Maziarz

## Resolution Adopted In Honor Of Tim Russert

GEORGE D. MAZIARZ

Senate Resolution No. 6613

**MOURNING** the untimely death of journalist Tim Russert, a Buffalo native and renowned host of "Meet the Press"

**WHEREAS**, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor the memory of cherished citizens of the State of New York who distinguished themselves in their profession and whose talent, wit, charm, intellect and unique personality permeated all they did; and

**WHEREAS**, It is with great sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Timothy John Russert Jr. who died on Friday, June 13, 2008, in Washington, DC, at the age of 58; and

**WHEREAS**, Regarded as one of the best political reporters in America, Tim Russert had a reputation for hard-hitting coverage that cut through the spin and uncovered the truth; he was one of America's most

influential journalists working in Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, As NBC's Senior Vice President and Washington Bureau Chief, Tim Russert helped shape the way today's news is reported and analyzed; he was a fixture in American homes on Sunday mornings and especially on election nights; and

**WHEREAS**, As Managing Editor and Moderator of "Meet the Press" since 1991, he headed one of the most popular and most often quoted news programs on the air; a political analyst for "Today," anchor of CNBC's "The Tim Russert Show," and MSNBC contributing anchor, he brought his insight and intelligence to a global audience; and

**WHEREAS**, Tim Russert's quick wit, warm humor and gregarious nature shed an irreverent light on the Washington scene, even as he unraveled its most intricate complexities; and

**WHEREAS**, A true child of Buffalo, New York, Tim Russert was born on May 7, 1950; he graduated from Canisius High School, John Carroll University and, with honors, from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law; furthermore, he was admitted to the bar in both the State of New York and the District of Columbia; and

**WHEREAS**, Before joining NBC, Tim Russert observed firsthand the inner workings of the executive and legislative branches of government as special counsel to United States Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, and counselor to New York State Governor Mario Cuomo; and

**WHEREAS**, Tim Russert chose to honor his father and write a book about growing up in blue-collar Buffalo in the 1950s and 1960s; **Big Russ & Me**, released May 10, 2004, tells not of Washington insiders, but of his roots and the lessons taught by his father and reinforced by his neighborhood and his Jesuit teachers, who taught him not what to think, but how, lessons he passed on to his own son, Luke; and

**WHEREAS**, Tim Russert loved his family, his faith, his country, and politics; in addition to his son, Luke, he is survived by his loving wife, Maureen Orth, his father, Tim Russert, and his three sisters; and

**WHEREAS**, Every citizen in New York State and the Nation has most certainly benefited, in one way or another, from the intelligence and insight that Tim Russert brought to his audience; and

**WHEREAS**, Named by **Time** magazine as one of the Top 100 most influential people in the world for 2008, Tim Russert was the recipient of numerous professional awards and honorary college degrees; he also won an Emmy for his role in the coverage of President Ronald Reagan's funeral in 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, This Legislative Body representing the people of this great Empire State remembers and honors Tim Russert's purposeful life and distinguished career, and extends its sincere condolences to his family, friends and colleagues; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

mourn the untimely death of journalist Tim Russert, a Buffalo native and renowned host of "Meet the Press"; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Tim Russert.

***\*ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE--JUNE 17, 2008***