

2015-J3488

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of James Nydahl, Buffalo Bills Super-fan, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose character, lifework, and devotion have served to inspire others across the communities of the great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, James "Jimmy" Nydahl, a lifelong resident of Tonawanda, New York, died on Saturday, January 16, 2016, at the age of 64; and

WHEREAS, Born on July 24, 1951, James Nydahl graduated from Kenmore West High School in 1969; he earned his Bachelor's degree in Political Science from SUNY Fredonia in 1973; and

WHEREAS, After completing his studies, James Nydahl worked in sales for several companies before becoming a Welfare Examiner for the Erie County Social Services Department, a position he held from the early 1980s until his retirement in 1994; and

WHEREAS, A devoted Buffalo Bills football team fan since the age of 9, James Nydahl attended his first regular-season Bills Game at the "Old Rockpile", War Memorial Stadium, on September 18, 1960; at the time, he sat in the back of the end zone with his cowbell-wielding mother, Geraldine; and

WHEREAS, A season ticket holder since 1963, James Nydahl could often be found sitting with his wife, Elaine, their son, Andrew, and friend, Sammy Violante, at Ralph Wilson Stadium together in Section 111, and later Section 134; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the past five decades, James Nydahl continuously displayed tremendous passion, loyalty and dedication to his favorite team by attending more than 425 home games, four Super Bowls and numerous road games; and

WHEREAS, During the Buffalo Bills' first 54 seasons, through snowstorms and subzero temperatures, surgeries, and the birth of his children, James Nydahl missed only two Bills home games; he also never left a game until it reached completion; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive team loyalty and enthusiasm which James Nydahl has displayed throughout his life as a Buffalo Bills football team fan; and

WHEREAS, James W. Nydahl is survived by his wife, Elaine M. Sinicki; their two children, Hanna and Andrew; his mother, Geraldine; two sisters, Deborah and Cynthia; two brothers, Jack and Martin; and four grandchildren, Rachaud (Taylor), Shae (Oscar), Blair, and Brett; as well as members of his loving extended family, Robert and David Aikens; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, James W. Nydahl 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 James W. Nydahl, Buffalo Bills Super-fan, 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 James W. Nydahl.