

2015-J6185

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating World War II Veteran, Richard John Tuscani, upon the occasion of celebrating his 100th Birthday on June 13, 2016

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, Richard John Tuscani was born on June 13, 1916, in Corona, Queens; for the past 40 years, he has lived in Mastic Beach, New York; and

WHEREAS, Richard John Tuscani proudly served his country as a member of the United States Armed Services during World War II, today, he is one of the oldest living World War II Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Richard John Tuscani's exceptional service earned him three Bronze Stars, one for the battle in Leyte, Philippines, one for surviving a Kamikaze attack in New Guinea, and one for the Philippines Liberation; this valiant soldier also received the World War II Victory Metal, the Philippines Presidential Unit Citation Badge and the Meritorious Service Award; and

WHEREAS, After returning home from his assignment, Richard John Tuscani founded his own business and worked at several jobs through the years including mail carrier, oil truck driver, New York City building inspector, city school bus driver, local dock master, and until only a few years ago, school bus matron; he is retired from the New York City Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Richard John Tuscani is a history and geography buff and spends his days reading, studying history, and watching the Yankees; he is quick to point out that when he watched Babe Ruth play, the entry fee

was 50 cents and the subway was 5 cents; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his daughter, June, his son, Richard G., and his late wife, Helen, all of whom have felt privileged to be part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Richard John Tuscani was overseas when his daughter was born and did not meet her until she was three years old; his son resides in Bayside, New York, and commented that his father is very inquisitive, and the smartest person he ever knew; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York, who have served so faithfully and courageously in wars in which our Nation's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace during peacetime, deserve a special salute from this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian, with his zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of his family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Richard John Tuscani has experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor a full life; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished man has enriched the lives of those around him through his joyous and sincere love for others and through the quiescent charm and wisdom which comes only from a fullness of years; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize those who have reached such a remarkable age and who have witnessed and celebrated the innovations, cultural developments and awesome achievements of this country during the last nine decades, while themselves contributing to the growth and excellence of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate World War II Veteran Richard John Tuscani upon the occasion of celebrating his 100th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to Richard John Tuscani.