

2017-J784

Senate Resolution No. 784

BY: Senator KENNEDY

MOURNING the death of Stanford Lipsey, veteran,
philanthropist, Pulitzer Prize acclaimed publisher
and former publisher of the The Buffalo News

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to
those persons who have diligently and consistently, year after year,
recorded the history of their communities and brought local news and
news of the larger world to their readers; and

WHEREAS, Stanford Lipsey died on Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at the
age of 89 at his home in Rancho Mirage, California; and

WHEREAS, Stanford Lipsey was born in Omaha, Nebraska on October 8,
1927 to Jacob Lipsey and the former Molly Brick, Jewish immigrants from
Russia; and

WHEREAS, Stanford Lipsey became interested in journalism at a young
age and became a photography editor of his high school newspaper and
college yearbook; he went on to the University of Michigan, where he
graduated in 1948 with a Bachelor's degree in economics; and

WHEREAS, After graduation, Stanford Lipsey went on to serve in the
Air Force as the editor of the Offutt Air Force Base (Neb.) publication
Air Pulse at the start of the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, Stanford Lipsey started in the publishing business at an Omaha company which distributed free weekly newspapers; during his 15 years there, he expanded it to become the Sun Newspapers; and

WHEREAS, During his career, Stanford Lipsey was known as the publisher who persuaded Warren E. Buffet, CEO of Berkshire Hathaway to invest in newspapers and purchase the Sun Newspapers as well as for his expose on the fund-raising excesses by Boys Town, the charity for orphaned children; and

WHEREAS, The expose titled "Boys Town, America's richest city: 700 boys with \$209 million" won the Pulitzer Prize for Local Investigative Specialized Reporting in 1973 for disclosing how Boys Town was soliciting contributions even though it had accumulated millions in assets, while its caseload shrunk; and

WHEREAS, Stanford Lipsey went on to be the publisher for The Buffalo News; he was credited for being the guiding force which allowed the former Buffalo Evening News to survive the 1980s and remain strong during the current challenging times for daily newspapers in America; and

WHEREAS, As a publisher, Stanford Lipsey was a strong supporter of the projects that greatly benefitted the local areas such as the new medical corridor in downtown Buffalo, additions to Roswell Park, the current Key Bank Center, as well as modernizing the single-terminal Buffalo Niagara International Airport; and

WHEREAS, During his 30 years at The Buffalo News, Stanford Lipsey championed several local initiatives, including Kids Day, Cradle Beach Camp, the Junior League of Buffalo Decorators' Show House, the News Neediest Fund, Books for Kids and the Buffalo News Albright Knox Jazz

Series; and

WHEREAS, Stanford Lipsey distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, As a big supporter of women's equality, Stanford Lipsey named The Buffalo News' first woman editor, Margaret M. Sullivan, in 1999, while also promoting women to the positions of Senior Vice President, Executive Sports Editor, and the editorial board, among others; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his illustrious career, Stanford Lipsey was considered a preservationist, philanthropist and community leader who always went above and beyond for the city of Buffalo to ensure their developments were cared for; and

WHEREAS, Among other honors, Stanford Lipsey was given the Spirit of Wright Award in 1997 by the Frank Lloyd Wright Conservancy and the New York State Governor's Parks and Historic Preservation Award by Governor George Pataki the following year; earlier this year, he was bestowed the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Excelsior Award by the American Institute of Architects; and

WHEREAS, Stanford Lipsey is survived by his wife, the former Judith C. Hojnacki; a daughter, Janet; one son, Daniel; and two grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Stanford Lipsey 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 Stanford Lipsey, veteran, philanthropist, Pulitzer Prize acclaimed publisher and former publisher of The Buffalo News; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Stanford Lipsey.