

## 2017-J5488

Senate Resolution No. 5488

BY: Senator GRIFFO

HONORING Thomas W. Neidl posthumously upon the occasion of being inducted into the Rome Sports Hall of Fame on July 29, 2018

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to outstanding athletes who have distinguished themselves through their exceptional performance, attaining unprecedented success and the highest level of personal achievement; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Thomas W. Neidl posthumously upon the occasion of being inducted into the Rome Sports Hall of Fame on Sunday, July 29, 2018, at the Inn at the Beeches, Rome, New York; and

WHEREAS, At just 12 years old, Thomas W. Neidl's stellar athletic career began when he won the Rome Punt, Kick and Pass competition in 1970; and

WHEREAS, Thomas W. Neidl went on to be a star, three sport athlete at Rome Catholic High School, a standout football player at SUNY Cortland, and a physical education teacher and highly successful football coach at Cazenovia High School for more than 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his tenure as Cazenovia High School's Varsity Football Coach, Thomas W. Neidl's team went 178-54-1, winning seven Section Three titles and more than a dozen league championships; he also served with great distinction and integrity on the Section Three football committee for more than 20 years; and

WHEREAS, A terrific family man and honorable citizen, Thomas W. Neidl was married to his high school sweetheart, Lynn Baker, for 38 years at the time of his death in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Having taught physical education to children in Kindergarten through fourth grade for his entire career, Thomas W. Neidl leaves behind more than mere bricks and mortar; he leaves behind a legacy to the students of Burton Street Elementary School and to the residents of the Cazenovia community; and

WHEREAS, An outstanding athlete, coach and teacher, Thomas W. Neidl was truly idolized by his friends, his family and especially by his fellow coaches who all agree they learned a great deal from him, making them all better coaches and better people by his conduct, temperament and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his wife, Lynn, Thomas W. Neidl is survived by his son, Terry, who remembers his father as an amazing man and a great mentor; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such outstanding athletic accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Thomas W. Neidl posthumously upon the occasion of being inducted into the Rome Sports Hall of Fame on July 29, 2018; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Thomas W. Neidl.