

2022 -- H 7960

LC005453

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF ROBERT RICCI

Introduced By: Representatives Craven, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Filippi, Ajello, and
Tanzi

Date Introduced: March 08, 2022

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, It is with sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Robert Ricci,
2 the devoted husband of Josephine "Jo" Marie Ricci for nearly fifty-seven years until she sadly
3 passed in 2013, and the father of Sharon Flanders and her husband, John Flanders, MD, his son
4 and best friend, Steven Ricci, with whom he resided throughout his illness, and his eldest son, the
5 late Bob Ricci. He was also the very proud grandfather of Nina Rose Ricci and Victoria Hannah
6 Flanders; and

7 WHEREAS, Born in the City of Providence, "Bob" as he was fondly known, was the son
8 of the late Mildred and John Ricci, Sr. and the brother of the late John Ricci, Jr., and Ralph Ricci.
9 He attended Central High School, where he was a stand-out athlete as an all-state wrestler and all-
10 state football player, and more importantly, it was when he met his future bride. Upon graduation
11 from high school, he served our country with honor and played football in the United States
12 Marine Corps before returning stateside and marrying Jo in 1956; and

13 WHEREAS, Utilizing the G.I. Bill, Mr. Ricci attended Providence College, while
14 working several part-time jobs to support his family. In all, he subsequently attained a very
15 inspiring five degrees from PC and RIC, and traveled to night school to attain his PhD from the
16 University of Connecticut; and

17 WHEREAS, A staunch supporter of education, Mr. Ricci was employed in myriad
18 scholastic areas including, teacher, guidance counselor, Director of Curriculum, and eventually as
19 Superintendent of the Providence School Department. After retiring from Providence, he and his
20 wife moved to Quincy, Massachusetts during the week, where he served as Superintendent of the

1 Quincy School department for several years before returning to Rhode Island where he served as
2 interim Superintendent in the Johnston and West Warwick school districts; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition, Mr. Ricci was on the RI Department of Health Dental and
4 Chiropractic Boards and the Rhode Island College Alumni Association, and later during his well-
5 earned retirement, he began painting, enjoyed competing with his wife on daily crossword
6 puzzles, working on numerous yard and home construction projects, attending Mass, and
7 spending quality time with family and friends; and

8 WHEREAS, Bob Ricci was a kind and humble gentleman who "never had an unkind
9 word to say about anyone." He enjoyed the loyalty, support, and love of his family and many
10 friends including his Romeo friends and Louis Marciano, and he always had a warm and genuine
11 smile for members of the Kent Hospital staff, and at the Providence VA Hospital, especially
12 Jennifer Oulette, DNP and oncologist Nancy Freeman, MD. He is dearly missed and will forever
13 be remembered; now, therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
15 extends deepest condolences and sympathy on the passing of Robert Ricci; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
17 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Sharon Flanders and Family, and Steven Ricci
18 and Family.

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