

**2017 -- H 6291**

LC002847

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017**

**H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N**

**EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF TULLIO J. DIFRANCO, CWO4 USA  
(RETIRED)**

Introduced By: Representatives Morgan, and Shekarchi

Date Introduced: June 07, 2017

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, Mr. Tullio J. DiFranco, age 91, passed away on May 20, 2017, at his home  
2 in Cranston. He was the beloved husband of Olive C. DiFranco for sixty-five years; and

3           WHEREAS, Mr. DiFranco was born on January 25, 1926, in Warwick, Rhode Island, the  
4 son of the late Antonio and Beatrice DiFranco. He graduated from Lockwood High School in  
5 Warwick in 1942; and

6           WHEREAS, Mr. DiFranco enlisted in the United States Army on February 14, 1944, and  
7 served our nation with honor in the Philippines and Occupied Japan as a Corporal with the 139<sup>th</sup>  
8 AACS as an Electronic Technician for radio, radar, and radio teletype until 1946. He also served  
9 our nation as a 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant during the Korean War, serving in Okinawa, Japan; and

10           WHEREAS, Mr. DiFranco served our nation and the citizens of Rhode Island faithfully  
11 as a member of the Rhode Island Army National Guard from 1947 to 1986, retiring with the rank  
12 of Chief Warrant Officer 4. He earned numerous ribbons and medals in honor of his military  
13 service including the Legion of Merit Award, and the Minuteman Award from the Rhode Island  
14 Army National Guard; and

15           WHEREAS, From 1981 to 1984, Mr. DiFranco ran Central Stores at the University of  
16 Rhode Island. He also worked as a Population Protection Planner for the Rhode Island  
17 Emergency Management Agency from 1984 to 1989; and

18           WHEREAS, Mr. DiFranco was an avid traveler throughout his life and visited much of  
19 the United States and many countries across the globe, including Italy, much of northern Europe,

1 Russia, Japan and China. He was also a very active member of numerous veterans organizations  
2 including the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), the Rhode Island Chapter of the  
3 Military Order of Foreign Wars (MOFW), serving as Commander in 1980, the Providence  
4 Marine Corps Artillery (PMCA), a charter member of the RING Retirees Association, and a  
5 member of the Infantry Lodge; and

6 WHEREAS, Besides his wife, Olive, he leaves behind his daughters Debra Ann  
7 Thomson and her husband, Richard, and Julie Beatrice DiFranco and her fiance, John Cragin. He  
8 also leaves behind his grandchildren, John F. Murray and his fiancée, Melissa Jandovitz-Church,  
9 Edward J. Murray and his wife, Melissa, Matthew P. Gormley and Kelly Annis, Captain  
10 Christopher J. Gormley and his wife, Patricia, Jessica R. Harris, Anthony T. Harris and his wife,  
11 Allison, and Lindsey O. Harris and her fiancé, Zach Phillips. He is survived by his great-  
12 grandchildren Nadia A. Cospers, Riley J. Harris, Jadyne Murray, Joseph Murray, Taylor Annis,  
13 Matthew K. Gormley, and Lorelai Gormley and was predeceased by his brother, Carmine  
14 DiFranco, and his wife Evelyn, and his two sisters, Philomena Pucino and her husband, Frank,  
15 and Genevieve Ricard and her husband, Raymond. He is also survived by many nieces and  
16 nephews; now, therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
18 Providence Plantations hereby expresses its condolences on the passing of Mr. Tullio J.  
19 DiFranco; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
21 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Olive C. DiFranco and Family.

=====  
LC002847  
=====