

2015 -- H 6257

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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

**EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL
WILLIAM SHERIDAN FLYNN**

Introduced By: Representatives Abney, Carson, Ajello, and Ruggiero

Date Introduced: May 27, 2015

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Lieutenant General William Sheridan Flynn passed away on Memorial Day,
2 May 25, 2015, at his daughter Erin's home, with his wife and daughters by his side; and

3 WHEREAS, General Flynn was born in Newport, Rhode Island, on November 17, 1936,
4 to the late John J. and Dorothy Flynn. He graduated from De La Salle Academy in 1953, and
5 Providence College in 1957, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. He
6 was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army upon graduating from
7 college. He later attained a Master of Science degree in International Relations from George
8 Washington University; and

9 WHEREAS, General Flynn began his distinguished military career serving in the Infantry
10 as a Second Lieutenant. Shortly thereafter, he received his regular Army commission as an
11 Ordinance Officer. During his career in the United States Army, he served in a variety of key
12 positions including as Commander, Division Support Command of the 4th Infantry Position, and
13 later became the only Ordinance Officer to ever serve as the Chief of Staff for the 4th Infantry
14 Division; and

15 WHEREAS, General Flynn's military career culminated in being chosen to be the
16 Commanding General of the 21st Theater Army Area Command. During his exemplary military
17 career, he earned numerous awards and honors including, the German Army's Cross of Honor, the
18 Belgian Order of The Crown, and the Dutch Army's Cross of Honor for Merit. All three of these
19 medals are the highest awards given to foreign military officers; and

1 WHEREAS, Upon his retirement from the United States Army, General Flynn served as
2 the Deputy Director of the "Big Dig" in Boston, Massachusetts. In this capacity, he was one of a
3 three-member management team that built the 3rd Harbor Tunnel and the Depressed Central
4 Artery; and

5 WHEREAS, More important than all of the above accomplishments is the fact that
6 General William Sheridan Flynn was a loving husband and father who adored his wife and
7 children, as well as a beloved brother, uncle, grandfather, and a loyal friend to many. He will be
8 remembered on a personal level for his love of Irish songs, wild dances, for running the Flynn
9 Family Olympics, for discussions of current events over the family dinner table, and for being an
10 anchor of strength and character on which his entire family could rely on; and

11 WHEREAS, General Flynn leaves behind his wife of 57 years, Lynn Egan Flynn, his five
12 daughters, Erin Flynn, Chyleene O'Connor and her husband, Jack, Keely Connery and her
13 husband, Paul, Deirdre Shope and her husband, Tim, and Tara Frates and her husband, Brian. He
14 is also survived by his brother John J. Flynn, Jr., and his wife, Mary. He is predeceased by his
15 Aunt Monica Fleming Owens and his Uncle, Francis J. Owens. He also leaves behind his beloved
16 grandchildren and great grandchildren, Kevin and Oliver Flynn Jantz, Meghan, Jay, Addie and
17 Jackson Ford, Cate and Kelsey O'Connor, Micaela, Cally and Keenan Connery, Maggie and
18 Monica Shope, and Owen Frates, as well as numerous brothers and sisters-in law, and nieces and
19 nephews, and many good friends; now, therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
21 Providence Plantations hereby expresses its condolences on the passing of Lieutenant General
22 William Sheridan Flynn; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
24 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Lynn Egan Flynn and Family.

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