

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 472

Introduced by Hansen, B., 16.

WHEREAS, Henry Earl Doncheski was born May 30, 1920, to Theodore and Edith (Wells) Doncheski, in Stanton, Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Henry served in the 9th Air Force from 1941 to 1945. He worked as a quartermaster, ensuring that supplies made it to the front lines. His war experience took him across Europe, from the beaches of Normandy to a concentration camp in Germany. Henry was one of thousands of American and Allied soldiers who stormed Omaha Beach on D-Day. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge and at the Rhine River. He helped in the liberation of France and took part in the Red Ball Express; and

WHEREAS, Henry met the love of his life, Dorothy Entrekin, while dancing to Lawrence Welk in Bertha, Nebraska. Henry and Dorothy were married June 13, 1942, and spent the rest of their lives dancing; and

WHEREAS, when Henry was discharged from the military, he and Dorothy moved to Tekamah, Nebraska, where he worked as a mechanic for 40 years at the Ford-Lincoln dealership; and

WHEREAS, Henry served for several years as the fire chief for the Tekamah Volunteer Fire Department. He enjoyed people and would help anyone. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars for 75 years and participated in the 21-gun salute every Memorial Day at the Tekamah cemetery; and

WHEREAS, Henry's love for his family was endless. He spent several winters with his daughter in Texas and made many friends that will never forget him. He leaves a legacy that his many friends and family will never forget; and

WHEREAS, in August 2013, U.S. Representative Jeff Fortenberry interviewed Henry as part of the Veterans History Project, a collection by the Library of Congress that aims to preserve the memories and voices of American veterans;

and

WHEREAS, Henry returned to France for the 70th anniversary of D-Day on Omaha Beach; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Grass, Mayor of the City of Tekamah, on behalf of the citizens of Tekamah, and the Tekamah City Council, proclaimed May 30, 2020, to be Henry Doncheski Appreciation Day; and

WHEREAS, Henry's life was defined by his patriotism, his dedication and integrity, and his involvement in his community. He loved to joke, never met a stranger, and loved to sit outside in the sunshine; and

WHEREAS, Henry was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy; daughter, Cheryl Noel; son-in-law, Virgil Noel; parents; brothers, Bud, Emil, and Leonard; and sisters, Florence and Dessie; and

WHEREAS, Henry is survived by his son, Randy (Peg) Doncheski of Omaha; daughter, Gae (Tony) Montoya of Carrollton, Texas; six grandchildren; thirteen great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Henry passed away at the age of 99 years, on May 12, 2020, in Plano, Texas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature honors and recognizes Henry Earl Doncheski for his life of service to the world, his country, and his community.

2. That the Legislature extends its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Henry Doncheski.

3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of Henry Doncheski.