

MINA BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
2007 (FIRST) Regular Session

E. J. Com.

Resolution No. 109

Introduced by:

T.R. Muña Barnes

D.L.G. Shimizu

R.J. Respicio

J.P. Guthertz

Relative to celebrating and memorializing the life and accomplishments of the late **Ivan Dale Van Reenan**, a long-time friend of Guam, and to mourn the passing of this decorated veteran and loving family man who served his country with honor and lived his life with distinction.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

WHEREAS, the late Ivan Dale Van Reenan was born on February 24, 1930, in Bedford, Iowa; one of six children of Elvin and Verneil Crum Van Reenan, including brothers Robert, Neil and James; and sisters Ramona and Ellen; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Ivan entered college and began a pre-med program when the Korean War broke out and he chose to enlist in the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, just prior to his tour of duty in Korea, Ivan went on a blind date and met the girl of his dreams, Marcella Ruth Krienke, and they were married three months later, on December 27, 1952; and

WHEREAS, he served ten years in the Air Force, rising to the rank of Staff Sergeant, and was stationed in various locations in the mainland United States and across the Pacific in addition to Korea, including Indiana, Washington, Taiwan and here in Guam; and

WHEREAS Ivan is a decorated veteran, having received the Korean Service Medal with one Bronze Service Star, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Air Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal; and

WHEREAS, during his service in Guam from 1957 to 1959, Ivan was stationed at Andersen Air Force Base where he was a Basic Weather Observer, Climatologist, and Pilot Weather Forecaster, who flew 30 missions on WB-50 Typhoon Chasers into tropical cyclones, the crew flying the aircraft through the eye walls of typhoons and tropical storms and into the center of the storms in order to gain the weather data needed to predict their course, direction and velocity; and

WHEREAS, while flying into storms in Guam, Sergeant Van Reenan's family lived in a Quonset hut in Air Force housing near the Harmon cliff line and Two Lover's Point, his wife Marcella Ruth and their young children Kathy Ann, Julie Lynn and Mark Roe huddling together without Ivan who was risking his life to warn people and learn more about tropical weather systems; and

WHEREAS, following his honorable discharge from the U.S. Air Force in 1961, Ivan joined the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) National Weather Service and was assigned to several different locations during his 16-year career, including Illinois, Wyoming, Missouri and Arizona as a Pilot Forecaster and Fire Weather Forecaster; and

WHEREAS, from 1967 to 1975, the Van Reenan family returned to Guam as Ivan became the Officer in Charge of the NOAA National Weather Service Bureau located in Finegayan; and

WHEREAS, as OIC of the Guam office, he worked collaboratively with the Navy Weather Service for weather forecasting for our island, tracking and forecasting all weather systems in the Western Pacific, and once again the Van Reenan family saw little of Ivan during typhoons and tropical storms, as he remained at the weather station 24 hours a day from the approach of the storm until it had left the area, making sure that the station provided the most accurate weather data possible; and

WHEREAS, while in Guam, Ivan and Marcella's children Kathy, Julie and Mark attended public schools including MongMong-Toto Elementary School,

Dededo Junior High and John F. Kennedy High School; and

WHEREAS, firstborn Kathy graduated from the University of Guam Summa Cum Laude in 1979 with a B.A. in Elementary Education & Special Education, married Fred T. Hagenbeek of Piti, and gave birth to their first son Matthew at Guam Memorial Hospital in 1977; and

WHEREAS, Ivan Van Reenan retired from the National Weather Service at the rate of GS 11 in 1977, moving to Las Vegas, Nevada where he began a new career in the casino business, working at the Showboat Country Club, Desert Inn Country Club, and the Palace Station Hotel & Casino, and enjoyed his hobbies of bowling, golf, baccarat, and exploring the mountains; and

WHEREAS, on February 18, 2007, Mr. Ivan Dale Van Reenan passed away in Las Vegas, living on in the memories of his wife, surviving children, grandchildren Matthew, Cristian, Lea, Rachel, Zac, Eric and Johnna, and great grandchildren Adam, Mark, Amara and Victoria; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, celebrate and memorialize the life and accomplishments of the late Ivan Dale Van Reenan, a long-time friend of Guam, and be it further

RESOLVED, that *I Mina'Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam mourn the passing of Ivan Dale Van Reenan, a decorated veteran and loving family man who served his country with honor, lived his life with distinction, and devoted years of exemplary service to our island community, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Speaker certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Marcella Ruth Krienke Van Reenan, to Kathy Ann Obenhaus, to Julie Lynn Grosso; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN* ON THE DAY OF, 2007.