## CITY OF BUFFALO

## **Executive Chamber**

## Memorial Proclamation

WHEREAS, On this special day, we celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Michael N. Coppola, an outstanding man of character who touched the lives of countless people and contributed to the betterment of the Buffalo community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Coppola was born at Millard Fillmore Hospital in Buffalo, New York on August 25, 1948. He was the oldest of the ten children of Angela Coppola and Dr. Joseph R. Coppola; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Coppola attended Christ the King School in Snyder, New York, moving on to Canisius for high school. He continued to attend Canisius through college, where he earned a degree in Business Administration and Management. He was honored as an Outstanding Graduate by Canisius College in 2016; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 16, Mr. Coppola began working as a stock boy for Tops Markets. Over the next 33 years, he climbed the ranks within the company, eventually earning the title of Executive Vice President of Marketing. He was considered an innovator in the supermarket industry, even opening up the first Tops International Store in order to meet the demands of the diverse cultures living within the City of Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Coppola was regarded as a dear friend, mentor, teacher, and inspiration both within and outside of the Tops company. It gave him great joy to guide and mentor others throughout his life and career; his lifelong motto was "Choose Love." Before his passing, he was even able to organize a reunion with his former Tops colleagues, further strengthening his local community. His leadership and dedication to God, family, and community will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him; and

WHEREAS, Michael Coppola passed into the arms of the Lord on August 21, 2022. He leaves behind to cherish his children Jennifer, Jill, Michelle, and Jeffrey; his grandchildren Serena and Arabella, Ryan and Miranda, Zach, Hailee and Addison; his siblings Leonard, Joe, and Jack; and a host of other family members and loving friends.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, BYRON W. BROWN, Mayor of the City of Buffalo, do hereby proclaim October 29, 2022, as

## "Michael N. Coppola Day"

in the City of Buffalo and join his family and friends in celebration of his life and selfless legacy.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Buffalo to be affixed this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022.

BYRON W. BROWN MAYOR