

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BENJAMIN J. WEBER



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING A HERO SQUARE AT THE INTERSECTION OF STRATFORD AND KENNETH STREETS IN WEST ROXBURY IN RECOGNITION OF THOMAS RODDY

WHEREAS, Thomas Michael Roddy was born in Massachusetts on April 12, 1917, and grew up in Boston. He graduated from Dearborn Grammar and Boston Latin School in 1935 and attended Boston College before he joined the Navy; *and*

WHEREAS, On November 13, 1942, Lieutenant Roddy was among those killed while aboard the U.S.S. Juneau when the Japanese fired a torpedo at the Atlanta-class light cruiser during World War II in what would later be known as the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal; *and*

WHEREAS, In total, 687 officers and sailors, including the five Sullivan brothers, were killed in action as a result of the sinking of the U.S.S. Juneau. Struck by a torpedo in the initial battle, the U.S.S. Juneau was heading back to port for repairs when it was struck by another Japanese torpedo; the ship split in two and disappeared under the water in about 20 seconds. Reports indicated approximately 100 sailors survived the sinking, but left in the water for eight days, only 10 survivors were ultimately rescued; *and*

WHEREAS, Thomas Roddy had a brother, William Andrew Roddy, who was also killed in action during World War II on May 29, 1944, while serving in the Navy off the North Coast of Africa. A Hero Square will also be designated at the same intersection for William Roddy; *and*

WHEREAS, Thomas Roddy was the recipient of a Purple Heart and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal. His remains are in the Tablets of the Missing plot in the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in the Philippines; *and*

WHEREAS, He was survived by a wife, Grace Bixby, and parents Luke and Mary Ellen Roddy and five other siblings: Luke (Lt. USNR), Frank, Charles, John, and Marie. His relatives currently reside in West Roxbury; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council honors the tremendous sacrifice endured by Lieutenant Thomas M. Roddy on behalf of the United States of America by designating a Hero Square at the intersection of Stratford and Kenneth streets, in the West Roxbury neighborhood of Boston, Massachusetts.

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