

Resolution 2026-14

Resolution Honoring the Life, Legacy & Homegoing Anniversary of Senior Airman Elizabeth “Liz” Loncki

Whereas, Elizabeth “Liz” Loncki was born on October 14, 1983, in New Castle, Delaware, where she was raised in faith as a devoted member of St. Peter’s Catholic Church; nurtured academically at St. Peter’s Catholic School; and shaped in character and teamwork through her participation in Catholic Youth Organization(CYO) Sports Programming. She deeply loved her family and treasured holiday traditions centered on fellowship and the joy of finding the perfect gift for those she loved. Liz also enjoyed rock music, swimming, and spending time at the beach; and

Whereas, Elizabeth was a proud graduate of Padua Academy, where she rejoiced in solidarity, confidence, and sisterhood. During her high school years, she embraced the motto of St. Francis of Assisi, *Suaviter Sed Fortiter* (“Softly but Strongly”), as affirmed by her classmates who were drawn to her servant leadership, athletic prowess, and infectious personality; and

Whereas, in March 2003, Liz answered the call to service, saying, “Send me, Lord, I’ll go,” and enlisted in the United States Air Force to stand on the frontlines and protect her fellow Americans. She graduated with distinction from the Explosive Ordnance Disposal School at Eglin Air Force Base/Naval School in February 2004, excelling in a demanding and male-dominated profession, and deployed to Iraq on September 27, 2006; and

Whereas, Senior Airman Elizabeth Loncki earned the Bronze Star for her heroic and meritorious achievement and service in a combat zone with valor. Her commanders and colleagues described her as the “ultimate troop” who “saved a lot of lives;” and

Whereas, at the age of 23, Senior Airman Elizabeth Loncki made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the United States of America, the State of Delaware, and the City of New Castle on January 7, 2007, in Iraq, giving her life so that others might live; and

Whereas, on October 12, 2018, a bridge on Route 1 in Dover, Delaware, was dedicated in her distinguished honor, recognizing her as a tremendous soldier and an even better person who exemplified the very best of what we can all hope to be; and

Whereas, on December 12, 2025, Elizabeth, stationed with angelic wings was the first to greet her beloved Grandfather, Mr. Walter R. Loncki Jr. as he walked into his eternal reward.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that City of New Castle finds it appropriate to respectfully acknowledge the life, indelible legacy and heroism of its native daughter who purchased some of our freedoms with her life as we commemorate the eighteenth anniversary of this tragic event and the 250th Birthday of America, land of the free and home of the brave.

PASSED this 13th day of January 2026

Suzanne Souder, City Council President

Nermin Zubaca, Councilperson

Brian Mattaway, Councilperson

Joseph F. Day, III Councilperson

Andrew Zeltt, Councilperson

Attest:

Diane Delgado, City Clerk