

**City of Cortland**  
**Cortland, New York**  
**PROCLAMATION**

- WHEREAS,** Ronnie James Dio was born Ronald James Padavona on July 10, 1942 in Portsmouth, NH and resided in Cortland, New York from early childhood until his graduation from Cortland City School in 1960.
- WHEREAS,** Ronnie Dio's musical career spanned in excess of six (6) decades as he began taking music lessons and playing trumpet at age 5.
- WHEREAS,** Ronnie Dio is renowned for his consistently powerful voice and for popularizing the "horns" hand gesture in heavy metal culture (which is formed by closing the thumb over the middle and ring fingers, while having the index and little fingers extended).
- WHEREAS,** Ronnie Dio was part of an extensive number of musical groups which included, The Vegas Kings, Ronnie and the Rumlbers, Ronnie and the Red Caps, Ronnie Dio and the Prophets, Elf, The Electric Elves/The Elves, Rainbow, Black Sabbath, Dio and Heaven and Hell.
- WHEREAS,** many of Dio's memorable songs revolved around the struggle between good and evil.
- WHEREAS,** Ronnie Dio was an avid New York Yankees fan.
- WHEREAS,** Ronnie Dio was a compassionate individual as demonstrated in 1986 when he organized "Hear N' Aid" an all-star charity collaboration to raise money for famine relief in Africa.
- WHEREAS,** Ronnie James Dio was inducted into the Cortland City School Wall of Fame in 2004.
- WHEREAS,** on November 15, 1988 the City of Cortland honored Ronnie James Dio by having a City street named "Dio Way".
- WHEREAS,** Ronnie James Dio passed away on May 16, 2010.
- WHEREAS,** Ronnie James Dio is survived by his wife, Wendy, his son, Daniel, his father, Pat Padavona and two grandchildren.
- WHEREAS,** to remember Ronnie James Dio, the "Stand Up and Shout Cancer Fund" has been established for donations. Checks may be sent to the Niji Entertainment Group, 12400 Ventura Blvd. #837, Studio City, CA 91604.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Susan D. Feiszli, Mayor of the City of Cortland, do hereby proclaim July 10, 2010 as

**Ronnie James Dio Day**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Cortland, New York  
this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2010.

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Susan D. Feiszli  
Mayor of Cortland, New York