

REFERENCE TITLE: Salvatore Carpitano; death resolution

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2026

## **SR 1002**

Introduced by  
Senators Shamp: Carroll, Gowan, Payne, Rogers

A RESOLUTION

ON THE DEATH OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL SALVATORE CARPITANO.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1           The Members of the Arizona Senate join the international military  
2 community in mourning the untimely passing of Lieutenant Colonel Salvatore  
3 Carpitano on January 23, 2026.

4           Born on September 12, 1986, in Catania, Italy, between Mount Etna  
5 and the Ionian Sea, Lieutenant Colonel Carpitano dedicated his life to  
6 service, joining the Italian Armed Forces in 2015 at the age of 29 and  
7 faithfully serving his home country for eleven years.

8           Lieutenant Colonel Carpitano served as a proud allied partner to the  
9 United States Air Force, embodying the strength, cooperation and shared  
10 values that define the enduring alliance between the United States and  
11 Italy.

12           Luke Air Force Base is recognized as the premier international  
13 training center for the F-35 fighter aircraft, training more than seventy  
14 percent of the world's F-35 pilots and hosting defense representatives  
15 from 17 allied and partner nations.

16           From January 2023 until his passing, Lieutenant Colonel Carpitano  
17 served with distinction in the 62<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Squadron at Luke Air Force Base  
18 as an F-35 instructor pilot and evaluator pilot. In this capacity, he  
19 trained and mentored aviators from the United States, Italy and Norway and  
20 greatly advanced the mission of multinational fighter pilot instruction.

21           Throughout his career, Lieutenant Colonel Carpitano held key  
22 leadership positions, including Flight Commander and Chief of Training,  
23 culminating in his service as Deputy Commander of the 56<sup>th</sup> Operations  
24 Group, where he contributed to the operational excellence of the 56<sup>th</sup>  
25 Fighter Wing and its extensive annual flying hour and sortie program.

26           Lieutenant Colonel Carpitano was entrusted with oversight of the  
27 F-35 partner-country flight hours program, aligning resources between the  
28 United States Air Force and North Atlantic Treaty Organization Air Forces  
29 to strengthen allied readiness, interoperability and global security.

30           Lieutenant Colonel Carpitano also supported Arizona's  
31 partner-country driver's license reciprocity legislation, reflecting his  
32 commitment to improving the quality of life for allied service members and  
33 their families stationed in this state.

34           Lieutenant Colonel Carpitano's tremendous contributions strengthened  
35 the bonds between allied nations and enhanced Arizona's role in global  
36 military readiness.

37           Beyond his professional accomplishments, Lieutenant Colonel  
38 Carpitano was known for his humility, integrity and kindness, greeting all  
39 with warmth and treating every individual with dignity and respect.

40           Lieutenant Colonel Carpitano was a devoted husband and father and is  
41 survived by his beloved wife, Emilia, and daughter, Sofia, whose lives  
42 were enriched by his love and dedication.

1 Therefore

2 Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona:

3 That the Members of the Senate honor the life and distinguished  
4 service of Lieutenant Colonel Salvatore Carpitano and extend their deepest  
5 condolences to his family, fellow service members and the international  
6 defense community during this time of profound loss.