



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER #196

Relating to a Proclamation that the Flag of the United States and the Flag of the State of Wisconsin Be Flown at Half-Staff as a Mark of Respect for Army Air Forces First Lieutenant Roy Coulson Harms

WHEREAS, on August 1, 1943, Army Air Forces First Lieutenant Roy Coulson Harms, a native of Grafton, Wisconsin, a pilot of a B-24 bomber in World War II, and a member of the 329th Bombardment Squadron, 93rd Bombardment Group, 8th Air Force, was killed by enemy anti-aircraft fire during Operation TIDAL WAVE near Ploesti, Romania;

WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Harms' remains were not identified following the war and were buried in the Hero Section of the Civilian and Military Cemetery of Bolovan, Ploesti, Prahova, Romania, and were later interred at Ardennes American Cemetery in Belgium;

WHEREAS, in 2017, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency began exhuming unknown remains believed to be associated with Operation TIDAL WAVE for analysis and identification;

WHEREAS, because of the efforts of his family and the work of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, First Lieutenant Harms' remains have been positively identified;

WHEREAS, on Saturday, May 6, 2023, First Lieutenant Harms will be buried with full military honors in Grafton, Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Harms was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, and Purple Heart, and he shares the name of the American Legion Rose-Harms Post #355 in Grafton with World War I veteran, Army Corporal Fred John Rose; and

WHEREAS, the people of the United States and the State of Wisconsin are forever grateful for the service, selflessness, and sacrifice of First Lieutenant Harms of the U.S. Army Air Forces.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TONY EVERS, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State, hereby order that the flag of the United States and the flag of the State of Wisconsin shall be flown at half-staff at all buildings, grounds, and military installations of the State of Wisconsin, beginning at sunrise on Saturday, May 6, 2023, and ending at sunset on that date.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this third day of May in the year of two thousand twenty-three.

TONY EVERS
Governor



By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State