



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER #189

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 Private First Class William LaVerne "Sonny" Simon

WHEREAS, Army Private First Class William LaVerne "Sonny" Simon, a native of Middleton, Wisconsin, a Veteran of World War II, and a member of Company G, 2nd Battalion, 109th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division, was reported unaccounted for on November 5, 1944, during the Battle of the Hürtgen Forest in Germany;

WHEREAS, Army Private First Class Simon's remains were designated "X-5767" and were interred in the Ardennes American Cemetery in 1950, with his name memorialized on the Netherlands American Cemetery Wall of the Missing, along with others missing from World War II;

WHEREAS, in April 2019, Army Private First Class Simon's remains were sent to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency laboratory for analysis and identification;

WHEREAS, because of the efforts of his surviving sister and brother and the work of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, Army Private First Class Simon's remains have been positively identified;

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, Army Private First Class Simon will be buried with full military honors in Middleton, Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, Army Private First Class Simon was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his actions at the Battle of the Hürtgen Forest; and

WHEREAS, the people of the United States and the State of Wisconsin are forever grateful for the service, selflessness, and sacrifice of Army Private First Class Simon of the 28th Infantry Division.

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 Tuesday, March 28, 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 twenty-fourth day of March in the year of two thousand twenty-three.

Handwritten signature of Tony Evers in blue ink.

TONY EVERS
Governor



By the Governor:

Handwritten signature of Sarah Godlewski in blue ink.

SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State