

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, Bernard Ramon Wimmer was born in Princeton, Mercer County, West Virginia, on October 13, 1913, the son of Sidney Harrison Wimmer and Eva Jane Morehead Wimmer; and

WHEREAS, Bernard Wimmer was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma on the December 7, 1941 as a Navy Fire Controlman 1st Class; and

WHEREAS, Navy Fire Controlman 1st Class Bernard Wimmer was on the USS Oklahoma when it was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft, sustaining multiple torpedo hits and quickly capsizing, resulting in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Navy Fire Controlman 1st Class Bernard Wimmer; and

WHEREAS, from December 1941 to June 1944, Navy personnel recovered the remains of the crew, which were subsequently interred in Honolulu cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, Navy Fire Controlman 1st Class Bernard Wimmer's remains were exhumed from a Honolulu cemetery in 2015 and was positively identified in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Navy Fire Controlman 1st Class Bernard Wimmer was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart, the WWII Victory Medal and the American Defense Medal; and

WHEREAS, Navy Fire Controlman 1st Class Bernard Wimmer, at the time of his death he was survived by his parents, and his siblings, Ruth Archer Sigmon, Lawrence Wimmer, Robert Wimmer, Evelyn Smith, Virginia Sargent, Berneice Cunningham, E.L. Wimmer, Harlan Wimmer and Betty Snider. Left to cherish his memory today, are his only living sibling, Betty Snider and her husband Mason, of Speedway; Several nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and cousins also survive.

WHEREAS, Navy Fire Controlman 1st Class Bernard Wimmer made the supreme sacrifice for his country and brought honor to his family, to his community, to his State, and to his country, and this native son has now returned home.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby **ORDER** that on the twenty-first day of August, Two Thousand Twenty-One, all United States and State flags displayed at all State facilities be displayed at half-staff from dawn to dusk in honor of Navy Fire Controlman 1st Class Bernard Wimmer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, on this the twentieth day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-One, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Ninth year of the State.



By the Governor


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE