

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, John Dean Forbush was born in Elyria, Ohio, on the April 25, 1998, the son of Dean Robert Forbush and the late Kristina Lynn Stewart; and

WHEREAS, John Forbush moved to West Virginia to live with his grandmother and step-grandfather in 2011; and

WHEREAS, John Forbush was baptized and became a member of Gassaway Baptist Church on September 25, 2011; and

WHEREAS, John Forbush had a passion for working on engines, participated in competitive engine pulling competitions, had a talent for flipping trucks and bringing them back to working order; and

WHEREAS, John Forbush was the owner and operator of Braxton Auto and Diesel Repair Shop on Route 4; and

WHEREAS, John Forbush had a love for animals and a self-taught passion for showing horses, John and his fiancée had quarter horses and participated in competitive barrel racing, poles, and Western Pleasure, and John was the President of the West Fork Riding Club; and

WHEREAS, John Forbush was a member of the Gassaway Fire Department Station #2, where he served as a volunteer fireman, educated and experienced in all aspects of public service, earning the respect of his community for his commitment to Braxton County and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, John Dean Forbush responded as a firefighter on behalf of his department, where he lost his life after jumping into the water and trying to rescue a mother and daughter whose car had plunged into a river; and

WHEREAS, this horrific incident sent immediate shock waves throughout the emergency services and first responder community and the citizenry of the State of West Virginia and caused an outpouring of grief; and

WHEREAS, John Forbush died in the line of duty on May 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, John Forbush is survived by his fiancé, Amber Lynn Frame; his daughter, Krislynn Grace Forbush; his father, Dean Robert Forbush; his brother, William Alan Forbush; his grandparents, Dave and Ruth Ann Samples; his aunts, Rachel (Frank) Boskovitch and Rachel Collins; his fiancée's parents, Vern and Marshall Frame; his best friend, JC Hoard; several cousins, aunts, and uncles; and he was predeceased by his mother, Kristina Lynn Stewart; step-father, Donald Lee Richardson; and grandfather, John William Stewart.

WHEREAS, all West Virginians mourn the tragic loss of this brave son who gave his life to protect and save people in emergency situations, and sympathy on their behalf is extended to his loved ones, his many friends, members of the Gassaway Fire Department State #2 family with whom he served faithfully and honorably, and to all those who knew and loved him.

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, in commemoration of the distinguished life and service of John Dean Forbush, the United States flag and West Virginia State flag displayed at the Capitol Complex in Charleston, West Virginia, and at all State facilities throughout Braxton County, West Virginia, shall be lowered to half-staff from dawn to dusk on May 10, 2022, the day of services celebrating his life.

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



By the Governor

DONE at the Capitol in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this Ninth Day of May, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Ninth Year of the State.

James O. Eastman
GOVERNOR

Mr. Warner
SECRETARY OF STATE