

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Jay Ross Manown, Jr., USNR, a courageous World War II Naval aviator is returning home to Kingwood, West Virginia, to be laid to rest with full military honors; and

WHEREAS, Jay Manown Jr. was born January 19, 1918, in Kingwood, West Virginia, the son of the late Jay Ross Manown and Ella Craig Manown; and

WHEREAS, Jay Manown Jr. was a graduate of Kingwood Highschool and was a senior at West Virginia University studying mining engineering when he entered active combat duty after the attack on Pearl Harbor; and

WHEREAS, LT Manown graduated from the Anacosta, Virginia, and Pensacola, Florida naval air training schools and served two years as a flight instructor at Pensacola; and

WHEREAS, LT Manown was ordered to the Alaskan Theater for fourteen months of service, followed by assignments in the Pacific, where he took part in naval actions against the Gilbert, Marshall, Caroline, and Philippine Islands; and

WHEREAS, LT Manown made the ultimate sacrifice on September 10, 1944, when he and his crew were shot down in the Naval airstrikes at Palau in the western Pacific Ocean; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Project Recover and the advanced genetic testing capabilities of the Navy Casualty Office and Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, LT Manown's remains have been identified are being returned to his family; and

WHEREAS, LT Manown will be welcomed home by his niece, Rebecca Shonk Sheets, nephew, John Shonk IV, and many cousins who honor his legacy and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the United States and the state of West Virginia are eternally grateful for the service and sacrifice of LT Manown, welcoming him home so that he may finally be laid to rest; and

WHEREAS, LT Manown is set to be laid to rest on October 29, 2024, in Kingwood, West Virginia.

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 Lieutenant Jay Ross Manown, Jr., the United States flag and West Virginia State flag displayed at the Capitol Complex in Charleston, West Virginia, and at all State facilities throughout Preston County, West Virginia, shall be lowered to half-staff from dawn to dusk on Tuesday, October 29, 2024, 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 Twenty-Eighth Day of October, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Second Year of the State.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE