

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: John Paul Hammerschmidt, born on May 4, 1922 in Harrison, Arkansas, was a former United States Representative, who was deeply loved by his family and many friends and died April 1, 2015 in Springdale, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Hammerschmidt served thirteen terms in the U.S. Congress, but did not seek another in 1992; and

WHEREAS: During his tenure as a United States Representative, Congressman Hammerschmidt served on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, the Public Works (Transportation and Infrastructure) Committee and the President's Committee on Aging. He is known for his major accomplishments on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, including his tireless dedication to veterans' casework, and for his passion to protect the Buffalo National River; and

WHEREAS: Prior to becoming an elected public servant, John Paul Hammerschmidt answered the call of his Nation by enlisting in the Army Air Corps during World War II; and

WHEREAS: John Paul Hammerschmidt was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and served as a combat pilot, flying 217 missions in the China-Burma-India theater. For his service in World War II, he was awarded four Distinguished Flying Cross medals, the Air Medal with four oak-leaf clusters and three battle stars. Following the war, Hammerschmidt continued serving his nation in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and retired as a Major; and

WHEREAS: May 4, 2015 marks the 93rd anniversary of the birth of John Paul Hammerschmidt and a memorial service is being held in Harrison, Arkansas to pay tribute to his service to Arkansas and to the Nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, in tribute to the memory of John Paul Hammerschmidt and as an expression of public sorrow, do hereby direct that the United States flag and the state flag of Arkansas be flown at half-staff from sunrise to sunset on Monday, May 4, 2015.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 29th day of April, in the year of our Lord 2015.



Asa Hutchinson
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin
Mark Martin, Secretary Of State