



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER #271

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 Private Herbert E. McLaughlin Who Lost His Life in World War II

WHEREAS, United States Army Air Forces Private Herbert E. McLaughlin tragically lost his life during his service in World War II at the age of 31;

WHEREAS, a native of Shawano, Private McLaughlin was assigned to Headquarters Squadron, 17th Air Group at Hickam Airfield on the island of Oahu, Hawaii;

WHEREAS, on December 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japanese aircraft also attacked Hickam Field, and Private McLaughlin was killed in action;

WHEREAS, Private McLaughlin's remains were interred in the Schofield Barracks Cemetery, before being transferred to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu;

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency exhumed Private McLaughlin's remains for identification, and he was accounted for in December 2024;

WHEREAS, a rosette will be placed next to Private McLaughlin's name in the Courts of the Missing at the Punchbowl, indicating that he has been accounted for;

WHEREAS, Private McLaughlin's remains were buried in Honolulu and unidentified for over 80 years, but thanks to recent DNA analysis, Private McLaughlin will be brought back home to Wisconsin and buried in his hometown of Shawano on August 9, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the people of the United States and the state of Wisconsin are eternally grateful for the service, selflessness, and sacrifice of Private McLaughlin and welcome him home so that he may finally be laid to rest.

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 **Saturday, August 9, 2025**, 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 sixth day of August in the year of two thousand twenty-five.

Tony Evers

TONY EVERS
Governor

By the Governor:

Sarah Godlewski
SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State