

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, Tony E. Whitlow was born on May 9, 1933, in Kellysville, Mercer County, West Virginia, the son of the late Noah Curtis and Florence Elizabeth Bailey Whitlow; and

WHEREAS, Tony E. Whitlow graduated from Oakvale High School in 1951, was drafted into the Army in 1953, served in the Korean War, and was honorably discharged in 1955; and

WHEREAS, Tony E. Whitlow attended the West Virginia Business School and majored in Junior Accounting; and

WHEREAS, Tony E. Whitlow was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates in 1970 and served six terms—ending his term in the House of Delegates in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Tony E. Whitlow was elected to the West Virginia Senate in 1984 and served until 1996, serving 3 terms, and briefly held the title of Acting Senate President during a vacancy of the position; and

WHEREAS, Tony E. Whitlow was elected to be the Mercer County Assessor in 1997 and served until 1999, serving 1 term; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Tony E. Whitlow was dedicated to honoring the heroes of the great State of West Virginia and the United States; and

WHEREAS, Tony E. Whitlow was the creator and curator of “Those Who Served” War Museum, located in Princeton, West Virginia—a labor of love that began with a small display case

of some World War II relics in his office—that later grew into a powerful tribute to our nation’s heroes; and

WHEREAS, Tony E. Whitlow dedicated his entire life to public service in West Virginia and was a leader in shepherding efforts to help recognize and honor veterans of this State and the United States; and

WHEREAS, Tony E. Whitlow was the last surviving member of his immediate family. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by infant brother Billy, brother Oakie Whitlow, brother Buddy and wife Joyce Whitlow, sister Beatrice and husband Charlie Turner, sister Virginia and husband Bill Brown; and

WHEREAS, Tony E. Whitlow is survived by his loving wife of 70 years, Rebecca Jane Blankenship Whitlow; daughter Valerie and husband Gerald Terry, and son Curtis and wife Tonya Whitlow; granddaughter Rebecca and husband Chris Bivens, granddaughter Cara and husband Zach Lambert, granddaughter Anna and husband Lee Hill, and grandson Noah Whitlow and fiancé Kayla Delp; great-grandchildren: Elaina Bivens, Kash Delp, Granger Hill, Boone Lambert, and Oaklynn Whitlow; and one sister-in-law Betty Dent Whitlow; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of West Virginia, friends, and associates of Tony E. Whitlow desire to recognize his dedicated public service to the State of West Virginia and to acknowledge his valuable contributions to the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PATRICK MORRISEY, 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 Tony E. Whitlow, the United States and West Virginia State flags displayed at the Capitol Complex in Charleston, West Virginia, and at all State facilities throughout Mercer County, West Virginia, shall be lowered to half-staff from noon on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, until dusk on Monday, November 24, 2025.

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, this the Nineteenth Day of November, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Five, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Third Year of the State.



By the Governor

Patrick Morissey
GOVERNOR

Kris Warner
SECRETARY OF STATE