

State of Missouri Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, on February 22, 1944, a U.S. Army Air Forces' B-17G aircraft known as "Mi Amigo," having been severely damaged by shelling during an attempted bombing raid on a Nazi airbase, flew low over Sheffield, England searching for a field to make an emergency landing; and

WHEREAS, Mi Amigo was piloted by Lt. John G. Kriegshauser of St. Louis, Missouri, whose crew included brave and patriotic airmen from across the United States – 2nd Lt. Lyle J. Curtis, 2nd Lt. John W. Humphrey; 2nd Lt. Melchor Hernandez, Staff Sgt. Robert E. Mayfield, Sgt. Vito R. Ambrosio; Staff Sgt. Harry W. Estabrooks, Sgt. George M. Williams, Sgt. Charles H. Tuttle, and Sgt. Maurice Robbins; and

WHEREAS, Mi Amigo, rapidly losing altitude, came upon Sheffield's Endcliffe Park, which contained a broad field for a possible landing attempt but where a number of young children were playing; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Kriegshauser circled above the park several times, Mi Amigo slipping lower and lower in the sky, but chose not to attempt a landing in the field out of concern for the children, instead crashing the B-17 into nearby woods, and there were no survivors; and

WHEREAS, one of the young boys playing in Endcliffe Park that fateful day, Tony Foulds, was so moved by the bravery, honor, and sacrifice of Lt. Kriegshauser and his crew that Foulds participated in efforts to construct a memorial on the crash site; and

WHEREAS, now in his ninth decade, on an almost daily basis, Tony Foulds continues to maintain the memorial as a tribute to the noble courage and concern for human life exhibited 75 years earlier; and

WHEREAS, because of the efforts of Tony Foulds, on February 22, 2019, the U.S. Air Force and the Royal Air Force will conduct a flyover at the memorial site as part of the 75th anniversary commemoration of the selfless actions of Lt. Kriegshauser and Mi Amigo's crew.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby recognize

TONY FOULDS

for his profound devotion to remembering and commemorating the Mi Amigo crew. Today, the people of Missouri say "thank you" for so many decades of honoring noble service and fostering a spirit of cooperation among peoples and nations.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 20th day of February, 2019.

Michael L. Parson
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: