



Office of the Governor
State of Missouri

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Special Warfare Operator Chief Petty Officer (SEAL) Matthew D. Mason, of Holt, Missouri, was a sailor in the United States Navy, assigned to the East Coast-based Naval Special Warfare Unit; and

WHEREAS, while serving his country, Chief Petty Officer Mason was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom; and

WHEREAS, on August 6, 2011, Chief Petty Officer Mason, age 37, died of injuries sustained when his CH-47 Chinook helicopter was attacked while conducting special operations combat in the Wardak Province, Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, Chief Petty Officer Mason's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star (2 awards), Purple Heart (2 awards), Joint Service Commendation Medal with "V" device for valor, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat "V" device for valor, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon (2 awards), Presidential Unit Citation (2 awards), Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Good Conduct Medal (3 awards), National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (6 awards), Rifle Marksmanship Medal, and Pistol Marksmanship Medal.

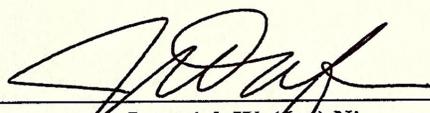
NOW THEREFORE, I, Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, as a mark of respect for the death of

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER MATTHEW D. MASON

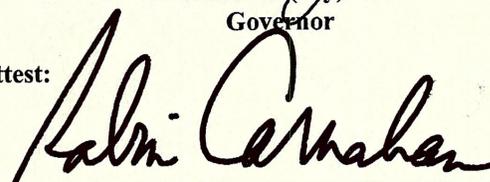
and for his bravery and service to the United States of America, do hereby order that the flag of the United States and the flag of Missouri shall be flown at half-staff at all government buildings statewide for one full day on August 17, 2011, and shall be flown at half-staff at all government buildings in the county of Clay, Missouri, from August 18, 2011, to August 23, 2011, from sunrise to sunset.

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 15th day of August, 2011.




Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor

Attest:


Secretary of State