



Office of the Governor  
State of Missouri

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, former Missouri State Senator John T. Russell was born in Laclede County, Missouri, on September 22, 1931, and grew up on a farm near the Gasconade River. After attending Lebanon High School and Drury College, he served his country in the United States Air Force during the Korean Conflict; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1951, John T. Russell married Margaret Carr. Together, they had three children, Doug, Jeanette and Melissa, and over the years, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. For many years, John T. Russell was associated with Detroit Tool Companies, where he served as a corporate officer, and was active in day-to-day management of the business until 1990; and

**WHEREAS**, in November 1962, at the age of 31, John T. Russell was elected to the first of seven terms in the Missouri House of Representatives, representing Laclede County and a portion of Pulaski County. While in the House, he served as House Minority Floor Leader in 1971-72. In November 1976, he was elected to the Missouri Senate to represent the 33<sup>rd</sup> District and was re-elected six times to that position before term limits brought an end to his legislative service. All told, John T. Russell served for 42 years in the Missouri General Assembly, a record of service surpassed in length by only one legislator in the 195-year history of Missouri, Michael Kinney, and only matched in length by his colleague, Senator Wayne Goode, with whom Senator John T. Russell worked closely in a bi-partisan manner; and

**WHEREAS**, as a legislator, John T. Russell was recognized for his service to public education in Missouri by the Missouri State Teachers Association, the Missouri State School Board Association and the Missouri Association of School Administrators. He also was a recipient of the Geyer Award from the University of Missouri Alumni Association, and was also recognized for his contributions to business and agriculture in Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, John T. Russell passed away on March 25, 2016.

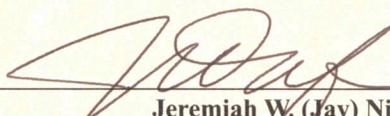
**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, as a mark of respect for the death of

### SENATOR JOHN T. RUSSELL

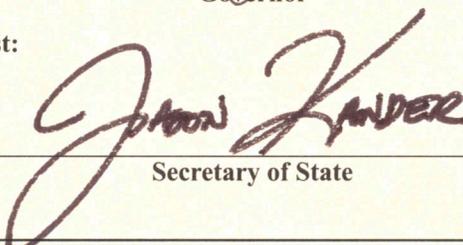
and for his service for the State of Missouri, do hereby order that the flag of the United States and the flag of Missouri shall be flown at half-staff at all government buildings in Laclede County, Missouri, on March 30, 2016, from sunrise to sunset.

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 29<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.



  
Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon  
Governor

Attest:

  
Secretary of State