

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**FIRST LIEUTENANT JAMES EARL WRIGHT DAY**

**2021**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, First Lieutenant (1LT) James Earl Wright was born on October 16, 1918 in Parkton, North Carolina to parents Mami Chason Wright and Robert A. Wright; where he attended Parkton High School before enlisting in the United States Army at the age of 21; and

**WHEREAS**, 1LT Wright was a member of L Company, 120th Infantry Regiment of the North Carolina National Guard in Parkton, North Carolina prior to his activation; and

**WHEREAS**, 1LT Wright (service number O-402766) heroically served in the United States Army during World War II and was assigned to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division; and

**WHEREAS**, 1LT Wright was killed in action on September 10, 1944 during a retreat across the Moselle River near Dornot, France, in an area known as the "Horseshoe Woods"; and

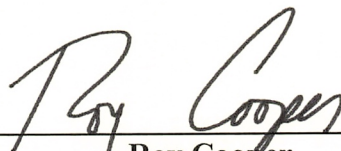
**WHEREAS**, 1LT Wright is commemorated on the Walls of the Missing at Lorraine American Cemetery, St. Avold, France; and

**WHEREAS**, between the years 2010 and 2015, the diligent efforts of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and the Europe-Mediterranean Directorate and the steadfast hope of returning James to North Carolina by his great niece, Staff Sergeant Sidney Brookman, of the United States Air Force; based upon the location of the recovery and comprehensive historical research and analysis of casualties near Dornot, it has been concluded that it is historically likely that the remains designated as CIL 2016-081-I-01 are the remains of 1LT James Earl Wright; and

**WHEREAS**, 1LT Wright honorably served his county, and fought courageously in the European Theater; his remains will lie in honor at the Oakdale Cemetery, located on Hwy 20, in Lumber Bridge, North Carolina, on October 12, 2021 to be honored by all North Carolinians and as expression of our state's highest gratitude and respects;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 8, 2021, as "**FIRST LIEUTENANT JAMES EARL WRIGHT DAY**" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this seventh day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.