



South Dakota

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(South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs)

POW MIA RECOGNITION WEEK

PIERRE, S.D. – At the request of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs, Gov. Dennis Daugaard has proclaimed Sept. 18-24, 2016, as “POW/MIA Recognition Week,” calling on all South Dakotans to honor those men and women who fought bravely for our freedoms.

“While we are grateful to all of those who have served our nation, this week is designated to remember and recognize the sacrifices endured by those members of the Armed Forces of the United States who were held as prisoners of war or remain missing in action,” the Governor said. “The state of South Dakota continues to support efforts to account for every service member classified as Missing in Action.”

Larry Zimmerman, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs, encourages all South Dakotans to set aside time during Sept. 18-24, to honor the POW/MIAs who fought to protect our freedoms and lost theirs, as well as remember those engaged in today's struggle to guard our way of life for future generations.

Zimmerman invites all veterans and their families to attend the re-dedication ceremony of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Pierre on Sat., Sept. 24. The ceremony includes a tribute to South Dakota's POW/MIA's. The agenda for the day can be found at:
<http://vetaffairs.sd.gov/publicaffairs/Vietnam%20Veterans%2010-year%20event.pdf>.

“In their service to our country, former prisoners of war and those missing in action have sacrificed mightily to maintain the promise of liberty that we hold dear,” said Zimmerman. “POW/MIA week affords all of us a great opportunity to reaffirm our vow to never forget the courage of our nation's staunchest defenders – our former POWs and MIAs. We owe them and their families our gratitude.”