



South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs
Soldiers and Sailors Building
425 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605-773-8242
Fax: 605-773-5380
<http://vetaffairs.sd.gov>

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For more information, contact: Audry Ricketts at 605-773-8242 or audry.ricketts@state.sd.us (South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs)

SD Bridge to be Dedicated in Honor of Air Force Combat Veteran 1LT Herbert Lyman and Army Combat Veteran T/SGT James Lyman

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs will host a State Bridge Dedication Ceremony to honor Air Force Combat Veteran 1LT Herbert Lyman and Army Combat Veteran Tech Sergeant James Lyman.

The ceremony will be Saturday, September 11, 2021, at 10:00 am (MT) at the Smith-Lyman Post 279 (on Main Street) in Thunder Hawk.

The South Dakota HWY 73 Bridge near Thunder Hawk will be dedicated to both Lyman brothers who served in World War II.

Herbert, a P-51 mustang pilot, was shot down over France on a dive-bombing mission. His plane sustained damage from enemy antiaircraft fire and left formation. He was reported killed in action June 17, 1944.

James was killed by an enemy grenade and gunshot wounds from enemy small arms fire in Italy while leading a charge on machine gun positions March 16, 1945.

Naming bridges in honor of our combat veterans who died while serving their country is an initiative of Governor Kristi Noem and the South Dakota Departments of Military, Transportation, and Veterans Affairs.

“Whenever and wherever this nation has called, in times of darkness and danger, as well as in times of peace and prosperity, veterans have been there and have proudly carried the torch of liberty for all to see,” said Greg Whitlock, secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs.

“Our fallen heroes are no longer with us, but their memories live on in the hearts of their loved ones and our state,” said Whitlock. “Naming our South Dakota bridges in honor of our fallen will give us an opportunity of remembrance, reflection, and respect — for honoring the men and women who gave their lives in service to this nation. They cherished liberty and loved freedom enough to lay down their lives to preserve our way of life.”