
U.S. NAVY RADIO MAN SECOND CLASS ORDIEN F. HERR
U.S. NAVAL AIR FORCE LIEUTENANT LEROY N. HERR
U.S. NAVY RADIO MAN SECOND CLASS EUGENE L. HERR

AUGUST 5, 2024

BRISTOL, SD





- On November 26, 2019, South Dakota launched the Fallen Heroes Bridge Dedication Program. The program dedicates state bridges to South Dakota heroes who died while in active service, were a prisoner of war or were missing in action.
- The US 12 Westbound bridge over the railroad three miles west of Groton is dedicated to RM2 Ordien Herr, LT LeRoy Herr, and RM2 Eugene L. Herr.
- Eugene was first reported as missing in action when he was serving on the USS Johnston, which was sunk at the Battle of Samar. Eugene survived the sinking, but died two days later, October 25, 1944, from exhaustion and exposure.
- Having completed over 38 missions during the war, LeRoy's PV1 Ventura bomber crashed while flying over Catalina Island September 25, 1945.
- On June 8, 1943, a transport carrying personnel to Sydney Australia crashed leaving Tontouta Airfield, New Caledonia. Approximately three minutes after takeoff the plane was seen going into a low turn and disappeared from sight. During the initial climb, one of the engines failed. The pilot tried to return to the airfield, but the aircraft stalled and crashed. The wreckage of the plane was in the water of St. Vincent's Bay about 100 yards from shore. A total of 24 men were killed, one of which was Ordien Herr.