



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Captain Darrell John Spinler, call sign 'Hobo 27', a native son of the State of Minnesota, was killed in action on June 21, 1967, while serving the United States Air Force in the Vietnam War, and his family has been waiting forty-four years for his return and proper memorial; and
WHEREAS: Captain Darrell John Spinler was born on June 16, 1938, in Graceville, Minnesota. He graduated from Browns Valley High School, where he played basketball and baseball and played in the school band. Darrell went on to attend South Dakota State University on a basketball scholarship, graduating in June, 1960, and earning a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Air Force through the ROTC Program; and
WHEREAS: Captain Darrell John Spinler went on to earn his wings and was deployed to Vietnam in 1966, assigned to the 1st Air Commando Squadron at Pleiku Air Force Base; and
WHEREAS: Captain Darrell John Spinler gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and died a hero at twenty-nine years of age on June 27, 1967, when the A1E aircraft he was piloting was shot down during a bombing raid in Laos, along the Xe Kong River, where his remains could not be found; and
WHEREAS: At the time of his death, Captain Darrell John Spinler was survived by wife, Darlene; sons, David and Dwayne; parents, Gerald and Myrtle; sister, Sharon; and nieces and nephews; and
WHEREAS: Captain Darrell John Spinler was a decorated military hero, earning the Silver Star, the 1st and 2nd Oak Leaf Cluster for the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star, the Commendation Medal, the 6th through 9th Oak Leaf Clusters to the Air Medal, and the Purple Heart; and
WHEREAS: Captain Darrell John Spinler's remains were recovered on November 17, 2010, and identified on January 5, 2011. Darrell will be honored with a burial with full military honors on Saturday, June 18, 2011, at the United Methodist Presbyterian Church in Browns Valley, Minnesota, followed by interment at Valley View Cemetery; and
WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota recognizes Captain Darrell John Spinler, forty-four years after his death, for his dedicated service to and sacrifice for his fellow citizens of Minnesota and the United States of America with its deepest gratitude, and all thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby order all U.S. flags and Minnesota flags be flown at half-staff at all state and federal buildings in the State of Minnesota, from sunrise until sunset on Saturday, June 18, 2011, in honor and remembrance of Captain Darrell John Spinler.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 17th day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and eleven, and of the State the one hundred and fifty-third.

Mark Dayton
GOVERNOR

Mark Ritchie

SECRETARY OF STATE