

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 101

WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant First Class Gunther H. Wald, of Palisades Park, New Jersey, was reported missing in action during the Vietnam War in 1969; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Wald was last accounted for when he was part of a Special Forces reconnaissance patrol operating in Quang Tri Province, near the Vietnam-Laos border; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Wald and the patrol were reportedly ambushed by enemy forces on November 3, 1969; and

WHEREAS, due to heavy enemy presence and poor weather conditions, a search-and-rescue team was not able to reach the site for eight days; and

WHEREAS, the search-and-rescue team found military equipment belonging to another member of the patrol, but no other signs of the patrol;

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Wald's remains have been identified and returned to his family for burial with full military honors; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Wald was a courageous soldier who loved his family, friends, and fellow soldiers; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Wald was, in turn, loved by his family, friends, and fellow soldiers, who take great pride in his commitment, heroism, and achievements; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Wald made the ultimate sacrifice, giving his life in the line of duty, while fighting on behalf of his country; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and fitting to mark his passing, honor his memory, and remember his family as they mourn their loss;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KIMBERLY M. GUADAGNO, Acting Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. The flag of the United States of America and the flag of New Jersey shall be flown at half-staff at all State departments, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities during appropriate hours on Thursday, August 30, 2012, in recognition and mourning of a brave and loyal American hero, United States Army Sergeant First Class Gunther H. Wald.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
28th day of August,
Two Thousand and Twelve, and
of the Independence of the
United States, the Two
Hundred and Thirty-Seventh.

[seal]

/s/Kimberly M. Guadagno
Acting Governor

Attest:

/s/Charles B. McKenna
Chief Counsel to the Governor