



Office of the Governor

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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December 1, 2022

Governor orders flags to half-staff in mourning for Hiroshi “Hershey” Miyamura

Flags to be at half-staff December 8 to 10 ahead of funeral

SANTA FE – Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham on Thursday ordered all flags in the state of New Mexico to half-staff from December 8 to 10 in mourning for Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Hiroshi “Hershey” Miyamura, who passed away on Tuesday, November 29.

Miyamura was born in Gallup in 1925 and served in both World War II and the Korean War. He was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 for his actions during the Korean War. According to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, Miyamura was the second-to-last living recipient of the honor for the Korean War.

The executive order directing all flags in New Mexico to half-staff from Thursday, December 8, through sundown Saturday, December 10, is attached. Miyamura will be buried on the 10th in Gallup.

The governor issued the following statement:

“The bravery displayed by former Corporal Miyamura during combat in the Korean War to protect his fellow soldiers was the stuff of legends. His efforts not only saved American lives, but went toward the greater cause of preserving our liberty and freedom here at home.

“I have often said that I am proud to be the governor of a state that is home to so many dedicated service-members – they represent the best of us. I offer my profound thanks to Mr. Miyamura for his sacrifice and my sincere condolences to his family. I pray for peace and comfort as they mourn this great loss.”

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State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2022-164

ORDERING FLAGS TO HALF-STAFF IN MEMORY OF HIROSHI “HERSHEY” MIYAMURA

On November 29, 2022, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient and native New Mexican Hiroshi “Hershey” Miyamura passed away at the age of 97. Born in Gallup, New Mexico, Hiroshi joined the U.S. Army during World War II in January 1945 as part of the all-Nisei 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment, which was composed mostly of Japanese Americans. After serving honorably for the remainder of World War II, Miyamura was again asked to serve his country during the Korean War. On April 24, 1951, while occupying a defensive position that was on the verge of being overrun, then-Cpl. Miyamura bravely engaged in intense hand-to-hand combat to fight off the assault so he could administer first aid and direct the evacuation of his squad members. When another assault came, he ordered his squad to evacuate while he stayed behind fighting off the advancing soldiers until he was severely wounded and captured. He remained a prisoner of war for over two years. Upon return to the U.S. after his release from capture, Miyamura worked for the U.S. Post Office in Gallup. On October 27, 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower presented Miyamura with the Medal of Honor for his bravery. Our country and the State of New Mexico owe Miyamura an immense debt of gratitude, and his bravery and public dedication will not be forgotten.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of New Mexico, do hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT** that all New Mexico and United States flags be flown at half-staff beginning December 8, 2022, and lasting through sundown of December 10, 2022. This action will serve to commemorate the life of Hiroshi “Hershey” Miyamura, and to mourn his loss.

ATTEST:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver

MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 1ST DAY OF DECEMBER 2022

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

Michelle Lujan Grisham
MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

