

STATE OF MICHIGAN



SPECIAL TRIBUTE

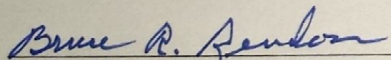
CAPTAIN EMIL SZTANYO

LET IT BE KNOWN, That it is a great honor to recognize and thank Captain Emil Sztanyo for his valiant and heroic contributions during World War II. He displayed the utmost bravery and heroism during his tours of duty, enduring and surviving the war as a night fighter pilot.

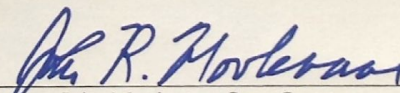
In 1941, at the age of 19, Captain Sztanyo enlisted in the United States Army Air Force, for the sake of defending our country and liberty for others. Over 91,000 pilots flew in World War II, yet due to the inordinately high risk, only 450 were trained to become night fighters. His true talent for flying was recognized, and young Captain Sztanyo was tasked with some of the most dangerous missions.

Of all his assignments, three operations stand out as the most perilous. As the youngest pilot of the 415th Night Fighter Squadron, Captain Sztanyo was selected to escort the President of the United States to a covert wartime meeting, in Casablanca with Prime Minister Churchill and General de Gaulle. Another mission involved transporting two generals to gather intelligence in enemy territory. With the two generals crammed into a two-seater fighter plane, he flew twice through the Liri Valley taking heavy enemy fire. When Captain Sztanyo asked the generals for a third pass, they quickly replied, "No, no. I think we have seen enough." This reconnaissance led directly to the breaking of the Gustav Line and the liberation of Rome. And lastly, Captain Sztanyo was involved in defending the meetings at which the United Nations was founded. In all these situations, the stakes were high; however, Captain Sztanyo performed above and beyond his duty, ensuring the success of Allied wartime efforts.

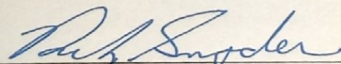
IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, Therefore, it is with great pride that we commend Captain Emil Sztanyo of the United States Army Air Force, for his brave and bold service. We also gratefully acknowledge and thank him for his honorable defense of this great country and state. May his future be filled with health, happiness and success.



Bruce Rendon, State Representative
The One Hundred and Third District



John Moolenaar, State Senator
The Thirty-Sixth District



Rick Snyder,
Governor

The Ninety-Seventh Legislature
At Lansing
August 13, 2014

