

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 22, 2019

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Minnesota Congressional delegation writes to add our support in calling for a non-presidential state funeral for the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from World War II. This would serve as a distinguished recognition to those who received the Medal of Honor during World War II and all 16 million American men and women who served in uniform during the conflict, including 326,000 Minnesotans.

Minnesotans made significant contributions to support our troops serving overseas. Minnesota families and their neighbors enlisted, worked farms, and processed food which fed soldiers in the European and Pacific Theatres. They also went to manufacturing plants to make planes, tanks, and ships that the Allied powers needed to achieve victory. Veterans across the state have told us that a non-presidential state funeral would help honor the legacy of those who fought and made sacrifices during the war.

Ten Minnesotans received the Medal of Honor for their heroic and selfless acts during World War II. Those names include:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Bianchi, Willibald C. (New Ulm, MN)       | Colalillo, Mike (Duluth, MN)              |
| Courtney, Henry Alexius, Jr. (Duluth, MN) | Fleming, Richard E. (St. Paul, MN)        |
| Hauge, Louis James, Jr. (Ada, MN)         | Hawks, Lloyd C. (Park Rapids, MN)         |
| Kraus, Richard Edward (Minneapolis, MN)   | La Belle, James D. (Columbia Heights, MN) |
| Rudolph, Donald E. (Minneapolis, MN)      | Sorenson, Richard K. (Anoka, MN)          |

As members of the Minnesota Congressional delegation, we ask that you take preparations to declare a non-presidential state funeral so our nation may reflect and honor all the American servicemembers who served during World War II.

Sincerely,



COLLIN C. PETERSON  
Member of Congress



AMY KLOBUCHAR  
U.S. Senator



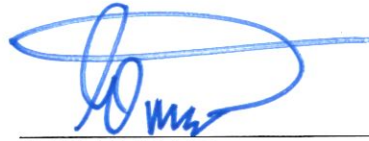
TINA SMITH  
U.S. Senator



BETTY McCOLLUM  
Member of Congress



TOM EMMER  
Member of Congress



ILHAN OMAR  
Member of Congress



PETE STAUBER  
Member of Congress



ANGIE CRAIG  
Member of Congress



DEAN PHILLIPS  
Member of Congress



JIM HAGEDORN  
Member of Congress