

STATE OF NEW JERSEY EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, since 2000, the last Sunday in September has been designated as a day of tribute to the New Jersey parents whose sons and daughters made the ultimate sacrifice during service with the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, when one of our nation's heroes dies in combat, there is an immediate and devastating impact on the individual's parents; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that we as a community rally behind these families during their time of sorrow and provide them with access to whatever resources they need as they come to terms with their loss; and

WHEREAS, for more than 80 years American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. has provided a network of support and assistance to mothers who have lost their children in the service of our country; and

WHEREAS, the organization hosts events throughout the nation that recognize the sacrifices made by parents of fallen service members and memorialize the lives of those courageous souls who died while defending our freedoms and preserving our way of life; and

WHEREAS, we must also recognize the contributions that parents of fallen service members have made to advancing services and programs for our nation's veterans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

## **SEPTEMBER 29, 2013**

AS

## PARENTS OF FALLEN MILITARY SONS AND DAUGHTERS DAY

in New Jersey and encourage residents to commemorate the occasion by engaging in appropriate activities and programs that send a message of support to our state's cherished military parents.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this fourth day of September in the year two thousand thirteen, the two hundred thirty-eighth year of the Independence of the United States.

Lt. GOVERNOR

Ole Helin E.