

RESOLUTION

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

RESOLUTION FOR SERGEANT RAY E. EUBANKS

WHEREAS, Ray E. Eubanks was born February 6, 1922, in Snow Hill in Greene County, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Ray E. Eubanks entered the United States Army in LaGrange, North Carolina during World War II and on July 23, 1944, was a Sergeant in Company D, 503d Parachute Infantry serving on Noemfoor Island in Dutch New Guinea; and

WHEREAS, while moving to relieve a platoon isolated by the enemy, his company encountered a strong enemy position supported by machineguns, rifles and mortar fire; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Eubanks, who was ordered to attack with one squad and neutralize the enemy, maneuvered his squad to within 30 yards of the enemy where heavy fire stopped his advance. He worked his way forward under heavy fire to within 15 yards of the enemy position and opened fire with telling effect; and

WHEREAS, the enemy, having located his position, concentrated their fire wounding Sergeant Eubanks and rendering his rifle useless; and

WHEREAS, in spite of his painful wounds, Sergeant Eubanks, using his rifle as a club, immediately charged killing four of the enemy before he was shot again and killed; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Eubanks' heroic action, courage, and example of leadership so inspired the men under his command that they advanced and drove the remainder of the enemy from their position, thus relieving the isolated and beleaguered platoon; and

WHEREAS, on March 29, 1945, Sergeant Ray E. Eubanks was awarded posthumously the Congressional Medal of Honor for *conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty*; and

WHEREAS, the Lenoir County and Greene County Boards of Commissioners have requested the N.C. Department of Transportation to honor Sergeant Eubanks, Greene County's only Medal of Honor winner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the North Carolina Board of Transportation names N.C. 903 from U.S. 70 in Lenoir County through Greene County to the Greene-Pitt County line in honor of Sergeant Ray E. Eubanks who unselfishly gave his life in defense of his nation, state and community.

That appropriate signs be erected at a suitable time.

Adopted, this the fourth day of August 2000 by the North Carolina Board of Transportation.


Secretary of Transportation