

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, in 1909, aviator George Schmitt and his brother, Charles, built and flew the state's first glider in Rutland, Vermont; and

WHEREAS, Vermont and Rutland are recalling George Schmitt's impressive aviation feats, including some of the first air mail drops in Vermont history; and

WHEREAS, George Schmitt exhibited his piloting skills to communities across New England, as well as the Caribbean, Central America, and South America; and

WHEREAS, George Schmitt showcased the marvels of early aeronautics at fairs across the state, including the Addison County Fair, the Dog River Fair in Northfield, the Caledonia County Fair, and the Rutland County Fair; and

WHEREAS, on September 2, 1913, George Schmitt of Rutland, succumbed to injuries after his "Red Devil" biplane unexpectedly crashed at the Rutland County Fairgrounds; and

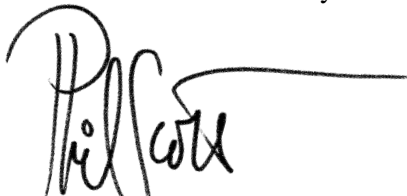
WHEREAS, 120 years ago, George Schmitt became the first aviation fatality in Vermont history, and tragically passed away at the age of 21.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim September 2, 2023, as

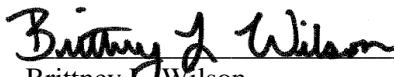
**GEORGE SCHMITT DAY
in Vermont.**

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 29th day of August, A.D. 2023.





Philip B. Scott
Governor


Brittney J. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs