



# Eagle Monument



Perched atop the impressive, stacked stone obelisk of the Memorial to the Door County Fallen Veterans is the **Bronze Eagle Monument**. The monument is located at 421 Michigan St. at the center of the memorial in front of City Hall.

The design for **Eagle Monument** was rendered by artist and Wisconsin native Mark Mille. The bronze eagle was then cast by the Domus Dei foundry in Rome, Italy in 2006 at a cost of \$41,0445.

The eagle is cast of BZn7 bronze – an alloy composed of copper (87%), tin, zinc, and lead – chosen for its strength, malleability, durability, and versatility of color. The eagle is 6’9” tall and weighs approximately 670lbs.

The eagle itself depicts Old Abe, an icon in Wisconsin Civil War history. Old Abe was a live, tamed female American bald eagle mascot who served with the Eighth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiment and was carried on a perch

into over 30 battles. As a result, the Eighth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry was known as the “Eagle Regiment”. Other Old Abe statues can be seen in Eau Claire, Wisconsin’s Wilson Park and on the rooftop of Memorial High School, along the Chippewa River in Jim Falls (30 miles northeast of Eau Claire), atop the impressive stone arch at Camp Randall, UW-Madison’s football stadium, and atop the 122ft. granite Wisconsin State Memorial in the Vicksburg National Military Park. Read more about Wisconsin’s war eagle Old Abe [here](#).



Keep scrolling to learn more about the memorial and the artist.

# Memorial to Door County Fallen Veterans

The concept for this memorial was developed by Door County veteran 1<sup>st</sup> Seargent Milton Schultise, who sadly passed away after he presented his vision for the memorial and before the memorial was constructed. The memorial consists of a stacked stone obelisk topped by the **Bronze Eagle Monument**, the base of which is surrounded by four black granite plates upon which the names of the Door County veterans who died while serving on active duty are inscribed. Those killed in action or deceased because of their wounds are further recognized with a gold star next to their names.



The obelisk is surrounded by a stone half-wall that incorporates a bench and is emblazoned with a quote from the Book of John (John 15:13) in the Christian Scriptures that reads, “There is no greater love than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” Opposite the half-wall are three tall poles flying the flags of the United States, State of Wisconsin, City of Sturgeon Bay, and Sturgeon Bay Police and Fire Departments. A semi-circle of

shorter poles flies the flags of the six branches of the military – Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corp, and Navy - along with the POW/MIA and Door County flags. The eagle is oriented on the obelisk facing the flags.

The overall project was managed by the master craftsmen of the historic design firm Conrad Schmitt Studios, of New Berlin, WI., with whom artist Mark Mille was a designer. Conrad Schmitt Studios recruited the Italian company Domus Dei, owned and managed by the Congregation of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master, to cast the bronze eagle. Fundraising for the memorial was led by Door County Veterans.

Keep scrolling to learn more about the artist.

## About Artist Mark Mille

An international collected artist, photographer, and illustrator of the popular children's book "My Very Own Name." Mark Mille has been creating beautiful images for decades.



His original oils and pastels are in corporate, private and museum collections across the country and abroad. His work has been reproduced as calendars, note cards, posters, and limited-edition prints, both hand-pulled and digital, and his work is in the Permanent Collection of the Museum of Wisconsin Art in West Bend, WI. He has twice been a Featured Artist for Milwaukee Public Television's Great TV Auction, creating original and exclusive editions for the most profitable fund-raising auction of its kind in the United States. As a freelance illustrator he's produced advertising and editorial illustrations for major national clients including Pepsico, Dow Jones, Nabisco, United Airlines, and Dell Publishing.

A former team member of Conrad Schmitt Studios, a nationally renowned historical restoration and design firm, he's designed stained glass windows, statuary, murals, liturgical furnishings and interior decorative schemes for churches, cathedrals, and historic theatres across the United States.

His most recent work has been of a convergent nature – utilizing and combining drawing, design, photographic, and software skills acquired over an entire career.