



## **Proclamation**

*Board of County Commissioners  
Manatee County, Florida*

**WHEREAS**, the original Purple Heart, known as the Badge of Military Merit, is an American decoration and the oldest active military decoration in the world, established by General George Washington at Newburgh, New York, on August 7, 1782; and

**WHEREAS**, the Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to any member of the United States Armed Forces wounded or killed in combat with a declared enemy of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, following nearly 150 years of disuse, the Purple Heart was reestablished by the President of the United States per War Department General Order No. 3, dated February 22, 1932; and

**WHEREAS**, the contemporary Purple Heart is a combat decoration, awarded to military members of the United States Armed Forces who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who were killed in action or die from wounds received in action; and

**WHEREAS**, recipients of the Purple Heart have known the meaning of sacrifice in the preservation of the United States' national interests at home and abroad, and these Veterans and their families can never be made whole again, as a portion of their being remains on the battlefield; and

**WHEREAS**, Manatee County is home to a large, highly decorated Veteran population, including many Purple Heart recipients, of which many have made the ultimate sacrifice in all the world wars; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Manatee County are honored to recognize all military members who have served, or are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces, and are proud to proclaim on this day, April 10, 2018, a special tribute to those brave service members, the recipients of the Purple Heart Medal.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that Manatee County shall be known as

### **A PURPLE HEART COUNTY.**

**ADOPTED** with a quorum present and voting this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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*Priscilla Trace, Chairman*

**ATTEST:** *Angelina Colonnese*  
*Clerk of the Circuit Court*

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