



## **Proclamation**

Board of County Commissioners  
Manatee County, Florida

**WHEREAS**, the original Purple Heart, known as the Badge of Military Merit, an American decoration and the oldest active military decoration in the world, was 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 Services 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 who died 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 of America and National interests at home and abroad; and

**WHEREAS**, Manatee County has a number of residents who have been awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat and has had several residents make the ultimate sacrifice in all of 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 dedicate August 7, 2017, as a special tribute to those brave service members who have received the Purple Heart.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that August 7, 2017, shall be known, designated, and set aside as

## **PURPLE HEART DAY**

in Manatee County, Florida.

**ADOPTED** with a quorum present and voting this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 2017.

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

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Betsy Benac, Chairman

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

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