

# Proclamation

**“NATIONAL PURPLE HEART DAY”  
AUGUST 7, 2016**

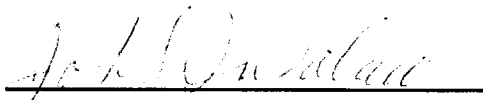
- WHEREAS,** The order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit is a uniquely American decoration and the oldest military honor in the world in present use and the first award made available to a common soldier; and
- WHEREAS,** On August 7, 1782, General George Washington devised the Badge of Military Merit in the figure of a heart in purple cloth and wrote that it was to be awarded “whenever any singularly meritorious action is performed.” On February 22, 1932, the United States War Department designated this honor as the Purple Heart; and
- WHEREAS,** The order of the Purple Heart is a combat decoration awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States 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 are killed in action or die of wounds received in action; and
- WHEREAS,** The Military Order of the Purple Heart of the United States of America was chartered by Congress on August 26, 1958, as the only organization of combat wounded veterans; and
- WHEREAS,** Apache Junction has the highest number of veterans in Pinal County, many of whom have been decorated by presentation of the Purple Heart Medal. The blessings of freedom and democracy we enjoy today are the direct result of the courage and sacrifice of generations of Americans.
- WHEREAS,** This year marks the 234<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Purple Heart by General George Washington and the City of Apache Junction is proud to honor the recipients of the exceptional honor; now

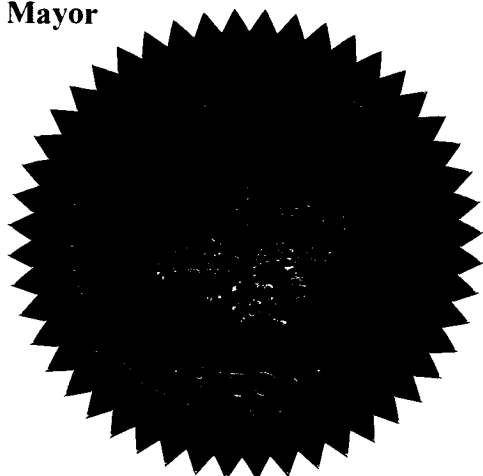
**THEREFORE, I, John Insalaco, the Mayor of the City of Apache Junction, Arizona, do hereby proclaim August 7, 2016, as**

**“NATIONAL PURPLE HEART DAY”**

**in Apache Junction, Arizona.**

Signed and attested to this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016.

  
**JOHN INSALACO**  
Mayor



**ATTEST:**

  
**KATHLEEN CONNELLY**  
City Clerk