

# Proclamation

## **MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH AND MONTH OF THE MILITARY CAREGIVER MAY 2017**

**WHEREAS, the series of wars and conflicts in which our nation has been engaged over time, since World War II, has resulted in 5.5 million military and veteran caregivers who are parents, spouses, siblings and friends, caring for those wounded, ill or injured who have served our nation, as documented by the 2014 Rand study commissioned by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation; and**

**WHEREAS, the daily tasks of these military and veterans caregivers can include bathing, feeding, dressing and caring for grievous injuries of wounded warriors, administering medications, providing emotional support, caring for the family and the home and working outside the home to earn essential income; and**

**WHEREAS, the nation provides multi-faceted support to our wounded, ill and injured veterans and service members through public, private and philanthropic resources but their caregivers receive little support or acknowledgement; and**

**WHEREAS, most military and veteran caregivers consider the challenging work they do as simply carrying out their civic and patriotic duty, without realizing they are, in fact, caregivers, and do not identify themselves as such; and**

**WHEREAS, an alarming number of military and veteran caregivers, according to research, are suffering numerous debilitating mental, physical and emotional effects as a result of their caregiving duties; and**

**WHEREAS, the City of Apache Junction desires to recognize and support those who are serving in these vital roles in our own community.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeff Serdy, Mayor of the City of Apache Junction, Arizona, do hereby proclaim May as**

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**in Apache Junction and do hereby urge all citizens of this community to support military and veteran caregivers and honor and recognize the community's military and veteran caregivers in partnership with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation's national Hidden Heroes campaign; that our government, organizations, employers and non-profits work to ensure the awareness of the unique challenges of military and veteran caregivers and encourage the creation of supportive environments and opportunities for assistance and encourage all who care for and support veterans and service members to extend that support to their caregivers.**

Signed and attested to this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**JEFF SERDY**  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**KATHLEEN CONNELLY**  
City Clerk