

NEWS RELEASE

City of Douglas

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City of Douglas Celebrates August 7, 2021 as National Purple Heart Day

DOUGLAS, ARIZ. (August 5, 2021) - The order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit, established by General George Washington on August 7, 1782, is the oldest military decoration in present use. The medal is awarded in the name of the President to those wounded or killed while serving in the United States Armed Forces. The Military Order of the Purple Heart was formed in 1932, and chartered by an act of Congress in 1958, for the protection and mutual interest of all combat wounded veterans and active-duty men and women who have received the decoration.

Every year on August 7th, the country commemorates the brave men and women who were either wounded on the battlefield or who made the ultimate sacrifice with their lives to defend the liberties that all Americans are privileged to enjoy.

In recognition of this date and of all the veterans who have been awarded this medal, the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas proudly proclaim August 7, 2021 as **National Purple Heart Day** as a tribute to the service and sacrifice of our veterans, and especially the valor of the extraordinary men and women who have earned the Purple Heart. City of Douglas is also proud to be a designated **"Purple Heart City"** and honor its local 262 Purple Heart recipients.

Mayor Huish presented the proclamation to local U.S. Army veteran and Purple Heart recipient, Sergeant First Class Frank Palma, to honor National Purple Heart Day. Palma was awarded the Purple Heart during the Vietnam War and served in the U.S. Army for 21 years from 1971 to 1992. "It is a privilege to present this proclamation to Mr. Palma on behalf of all the local Purple Heart recipients and to celebrate National Purple Heart Day. I am amazed of all the purple hearts from Douglas and proud to be a part in recognizing them for their service and sacrifice to our country." stated Huish.

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