

# Alachua County Florida

## A Proclamation

### Declaring August 2014 as "Purple Heart Month" In Alachua County, Florida

**Whereas,** Alachua County, Florida has always supported its military veteran population; and

**Whereas,** the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and was initially created as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 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 members of the United State Armed Forces who have been wounded or made the ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the United States of America; and

**Whereas,** the mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of good will among the combat wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most importantly, make sure we never forget; and

**Whereas,** Alachua County has a large, highly decorated veteran population, including many Purple Heart recipients and their families; and

**Whereas,** Alachua County encourages its citizens to recognize the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients made in defending our freedoms, acknowledge them for their courage, and show them the honor and support they have earned.

**Now, therefore, through the authority vested in me by the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida, I do hereby proclaim August 2014 as "Purple Heart Month" in Alachua County, Florida.**

Duly proclaimed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, A.D., 2014.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lee Pinkoson, Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
J.K. Irby, Clerk