

Proclamation

by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin

- Whereas,** the mission of defending freedom for America is dangerous and preserving peace has a cost that includes loss of life and the shedding of blood in the name of freedom; and
- Whereas,** it is the duty of Americans to remember the sacrifices of those who paid the price for freedom with their lives and the wounding of their bodies in times of war; and
- Whereas,** the original Purple Heart, designated as the Badge of Military Merit, was established by George Washington – then Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army – by order from his Newburgh, New York headquarters on August 7, 1782; and
- Whereas,** the United States Government honors those who have given their lives and shed their blood in the line of duty against an armed enemy of the United States by awarding them the Purple Heart; and
- Whereas,** the Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to any member of the Armed Forces wounded or killed in action; and
- Whereas,** the Purple Heart is the oldest award that is still given to members of the United States Military; and
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Legislature proclaimed through House Concurrent Resolution 135 that West Virginia is a Purple Heart State.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *August 7, 2013*, as:

Purple Heart Day

in the Mountain State and encourage citizens to pay tribute to those that have earned the Purple Heart.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Sixth day of August, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Thirteen, and in the One Hundred Fifty-First year of the State.



Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

By the Governor:



Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State

