**TOWN OF HUNTINGTON**

**PROCLAMATION**

**PURPLE HEART TOWN**

**WHEREAS**, the people of the Town of Huntington have great admiration and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served their country and this community in the Armed Forces for the good of all; and

**WHEREAS**, contributions and sacrifices of the men and women from Huntington who served in harm’s way in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedom and the way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, citizens of our community have been killed in action while serving in the Armed Forces and have been posthumously awarded the Purple Heart for their ultimate sacrifice; and

**WHEREAS**, citizens of our community have been awarded the Purple Heart for their bodily sacrifice of being wounded in action while engaged in combat; and

**WHEREAS**, the Purple Heart is the oldest American military decoration in present use and was created as The Badge of Military Merit on August 7, 1782 in Newburgh, New York by General George Washington. Initially it was made of purple cloth, shaped as a heart with the word “Merit” sewn upon it; and

**WHEREAS**, the heritage it represents is sacred to those who know the price paid to wear the Purple Heart; and

**WHEREAS**, August 7th is nationally recognized as Purple Heart Appreciation Day; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED**, We the Huntington Select Board on behalf of the Town of Huntington , go on record to hereby proclaim Huntington Massachusetts a Purple Heart Town, honoring the service and sacrifice of our nation’s men and women in uniform that were wounded or killed by the enemy while serving to protect the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans.

**ALSO, BE IT PROCLAIMED,** We the Town of Huntington will recognize August 7th annually as Purple Heart Day, and urge the people and organizations of Huntington to display the American Flag as well as other public expressions of recognition of our Purple Heart recipients.