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PURPLE HEART RECOGNITION DAY

PIERRE, S.D. – At the request of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs, Gov. Kristi Noem has proclaimed Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021, as “Purple Heart Recognition Day,” calling on all South Dakotans to honor those men and women who are recipients of the Purple Heart Medal.

The Purple Heart is the nation’s oldest military honor, dating back to General George Washington and the American Revolution, and is awarded to those service men and women who have borne the battle, sacrificing life and limb.

“August 7th is also National Purple Heart Day, and is a day to honor those brave men and women who have earned the Purple Heart,” said Greg Whitlock, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs. “It unites our country in recognizing the sacrifices of those who have risked everything in serving our great nation.”

The Governor encourages all South Dakotans to set aside time on August 7 to pay tribute to our heroes who have been honored with the Purple Heart. “It is important for all Americans to learn the history of this important military award and the sacrifices made by the recipients,” said Gov. Noem.

“Our military remains as strong as it has ever been. America’s veterans have been defined by the virtues of selfless service, sacrifice and devotion to duty,” said Whitlock. “These men and women, who serve and have served, are the flesh and blood of American exceptionalism.”