

Village of Palmetto Bay Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Village of Palmetto Bay has great admiration and the utmost gratitude for all the brave soldiers who have selflessly served our country in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, as a vital part of American history, members of the United States Armed Forces fought bravely in the Battle of Iwo Jima during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Hershel Woodrow “Woody” Williams born on October 2, 1923, is a retired United States Marine who received the Medal of Honor for his actions in the Battle of Iwo Jima during World War II. His actions are considered to be “above and beyond the call of duty” during his service in the battle of Iwo Jima; and

WHEREAS, the Battle of Iwo Jima (February 19, 1945 – March 26, 1945) was a major battle in which United States Marines landed on and captured the island of Iwo Jima from the Japanese Imperial Army during World War II. The five-week battle comprised some of the fiercest and bloodiest fighting of the War in the Pacific of World War II; and

WHEREAS, during the battle, Corporal Hershel Woodrow “Woody” Williams utilized a seventy pound flamethrower to subdue devastating machine gun fire from the unyielding positions. Covered by only four riflemen, he bravely fought for hours under horrific small-arms fire and repeatedly returned to his own lines to prepare demolition charges and obtain serviced flame throwers while wiping out one position after another; and

WHEREAS, at the end of the battle, the United States Marines placed a flag on top of Mount Suribachi and the signature photo of this event became known as the United States Marine Corps Memorial located in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Hershel Woodrow “Woody” Williams is one of twenty-seven soldiers who received a Medal of Honor by the United States government for his heroism in the battle of Iwo Jima; and

WHEREAS, to date, Corporal Hershel Woodrow “Woody” Williams continues to preserve the memory of the fallen, and stand as a stark reminder that freedom is not free through his Medal of Honor Foundation. The Foundation encourages establishing permanent Gold Star Families Memorial Monuments in communities throughout the country and provides scholarships to eligible Gold Star Children. Its’ purpose is to honor Gold Star Families, relatives, and Gold Star Children who have sacrificed a loved one in the service of their country.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eugene Flinn, Mayor of the Village of Palmetto Bay, together with the Village Council of the Village of Palmetto Bay, am proud and honored to recognize Saturday, October 15, 2016 as: **Corporal Hershel Woodrow “Woody” Williams Day**. I urge our citizens to join with me in recognizing this endeavor with the veterans of The American Legion Marlin Moore Post #133.

Dated this 15th day of October, 2016.

Attest:

Missy Arocha, Village Clerk

Eugene Flinn, Mayor
John Dubois, Vice Mayor
Karyn Cunningham, Council Member
Tim Schaffer, Council Member
Larissa Siegel Lara, Council Member

