

# **PROCLAMATION**

***WHEREAS**, America has been blessed with an abundance of men and women who proudly and bravely serve their country sacrificing a great deal for the cherished causes of freedom and democracy; and*

***WHEREAS**, we salute Marine Corps Pfc. Larry R. Roberts for his bravery and dedication to the defense of our democracy and the sovereignty of freedom-loving nations around the world, recognizing him as a service man who willingly stepped into harm's way and sacrificed his life to protect others and to defend freedom; and*

***WHEREAS**, as honored and respected citizens, our service men and women have learned the value of service, dedication, and discipline and know the worth of life and liberty; and*

***WHEREAS**, America has found in our service men and women, the leadership, courage, and determination needed to overcome all forms of despicable threats to our nation and its freedom; and*

***WHEREAS**, we owe our military personnel a debt of gratitude which can never be fully repaid and recognize our local military officer Marine Corps Pfc. Larry R. Roberts, who was assigned to Special Weapons Group, 2<sup>nd</sup> Defense Battalion, Fleet Marine Force in World War II, who with the help of his fellow men, successfully secured the island Tarawa of the Gilbert Islands, virtually annihilating the Japanese after several days of intense fighting, therefore allowing the U.S. Navy Pacific Fleet to advance their Central Pacific Campaign against Japan ; and*

***WHEREAS**, the County of Van Buren is committed to recognizing and honoring the many fine individuals who make the world a better and safer place for new generations of Americans who will continue to reap the benefits of such a proud legacy of selfless service.*

***WHEREAS**, we thank Pfc. Larry R. Roberts and the many brave men and women for making the sacrifice for our country to insure the freedom and liberties we enjoy as Americans.*

***IN WITNESS, THEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year of our Lord, 2017.*



*Roger W. Hooper*

Roger W. Hooper  
Van Buren County Judge