

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base (AFB) and its personnel have had a positive impact on the Pima County community and economy and have played a crucial role in protecting our Nation at home and abroad since the base was first established in 1941; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1971, Davis-Monthan AFB has been the home of the 355<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, comprised of nearly 7,000 Airmen, most of whom have seen or will see combat action; and

**WHEREAS**, the 355th Maintenance Group directs component repair, equipment maintenance, sortie production, and overall daily maintenance operations for 355th Wing, and the more than 660 Airmen assigned to the 355<sup>th</sup> Equipment Maintenance Squadron provide maintenance support for Davis-Monthan's A-10, C-130, and HH-60 aircraft here and abroad; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States this year celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the all-volunteer armed forces, instituted on July 1, 1973; and

**WHEREAS**, Airmen 1st Class Michael L. Kristopik II, Garron M. Reeves Jr., and Tyler Angelo were 20 years old when they were assigned to Davis-Monthan AFB in 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, Airmen 1st Class Kristopik and Reeves, both structural maintenance technicians, and Airman 1st Class Angelo, an aircraft metals technology journeyman, were deployed for the first time in September 2012 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, the three Airmen were injured on Oct. 5, 2012, when a 107mm rocket hit the air conditioning unit directly outside the Metals Technology shop at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Purple Heart is the Nation's oldest military award, having been introduced as the "Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782, and is awarded to service members killed or wounded in action; and

**WHEREAS**, the three Airmen were awarded Purple Hearts on July 11, 2013, in a ceremony at Davis-Monthan AFB;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Pima County Board of Supervisors recognizes and honors

**Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Michael L. Kristopik II**  
**Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Garron M. Reeves Jr.**  
**Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Tyler Angelo**

for their willingness to volunteer for military service, put themselves in harm's way and endure injury to serve and protect our Nation.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 3rd day of September 2013.

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The Honorable Ramón Valadez, Chairman  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

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Robin Brigode, Clerk  
Pima County Board of Supervisors