

PROCLAMATION

BY MAYOR JOEL GREER

WHEREAS, 1,840,640 American men were drafted during the Vietnam War between 1964 and 1973; and,

WHEREAS, 2,700,000 American men and women served in Vietnam between February 1961 and May 1975; and,

WHEREAS, 58,267 American service members made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam, including 868 Iowans; and,

WHEREAS, among those casualties were Lance Corporal Darwin Lee Judge of Marshalltown, Iowa, and Corporal Charles McMahon, Jr. of Woburn, Massachusetts, who were killed in action 50 years ago today, April 29, 1975, while supporting the evacuation of the United States Embassy and thousands of refugees; and,

WHEREAS, Darwin Lee Judge grew up with a loving family including his father, Henry Judge, who served our Nation in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II and later served our community as a carrier for the United States Postal Service, his mother, Ida (Parsons) Judge, who was an active member of the community - volunteering with the American Legion Auxiliary and at the Iowa Veterans Home, his sister Lori (Judge) DeSaulniers, and his brother, Loren Eugene Judge; and,

WHEREAS, Darwin Judge was an All-American Marshalltown boy - playing Little League baseball, working as a carry-out boy for Clifton's Supermarket, delivering the Times-Republican Newspaper, and being an active member of his church and Boy Scout Troop 310 where he attended dozens of campouts, and earned the Order of the Arrow and the prestigious Eagle Scout Award; and,

WHEREAS, Darwin Judge graduated from Marshalltown High School in 1974, joined the United States Marine Corps, completed boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, and then completed Marine Security Guard School at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia, before being assigned to the United States Embassy Marine Security detail in Saigon, Vietnam, in March 1975; and,

WHEREAS, the 60 Marines securing the Embassy and Defense Attaché Office / Tan Son Nhut Air Base supported Operation Frequent Wind and the evacuation of the Embassy and more than 7,000 refugees in 105° heat and under fire by the North Vietnamese Army; and,

WHEREAS, during that engagement on April 29, 1975, Darwin Judge and Charles McMahon were killed in action by rocket fire and represent the last two casualties of the Vietnam War and will never be forgotten by our country, state, or this community; and,

WHEREAS, all Vietnam Era Veterans and Vietnam Veterans and their family members are to be commended for their service, sacrifice, and devotion to duty during this trying time in our Nation's history.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Mayor Joel Greer of the City Marshalltown, Iowa, do hereby proclaim April 29, 2025, as

"Lance Corporal Darwin Lee Judge & Corporal Charles McMahon Jr., the Fall of Saigon Marines Association, & Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day"



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused my seal to be affixed on this 28th day of April 2025.

Joel Greer, Mayor
City of Marshalltown

A blue ink signature of the name "Joel Greer" is written over a blue horizontal line.