



City of St. Charles

I L L I N O I S

Proclamation

Gold Star 500
September 23, 2017

- WHEREAS,** **The Gold Star Mission** is a nonprofit organization that seeks to Honor and Support Gold Star Families by preserving the memory of our Fallen Heroes through service to others in need; and
- WHEREAS,** The term Gold Star Family is a modern reference that comes from the Service Flag, which was first flown by families during World War I. The flag included a blue star for every immediate family member serving in the armed forces of the United States, during any period of war or hostilities in which the armed forces of the United States were engaged. If that loved one died, the family replaced the blue star with a gold star, informing members of the community the family paid the ultimate price in support of our freedom; and
- WHEREAS,** **The Gold Star Mission** was established in 2017 in Springfield, Illinois after several veterans and friends, moved by stories of the Gold Star Families that lost a loved on in Afghanistan or Iraq, took action to help others in need. What started as a desire to provide scholarships for surviving children has evolved into widespread effort to assist Gold Star Families and others in need to preserve the memory of our Fallen Heroes; and
- WHEREAS,** Currently, the Illinois National Guard has had 34 Soldiers and Airmen killed in action since September 11, 2001; and
- WHEREAS,** St. Charles is home to the family of the first National Guard killed in action in the Global War on Terror, Staff Sergeant Jacob Frazier. Staff Sgt. Frazier exemplified the Army Values of Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage; and
- WHEREAS,** **The Gold Star Mission** pays tribute to fallen heroes and their families. Enlists public assistance in support of Gold Star families. Provides unique programs honoring the fallen heroes. Encourages selfless service. Provides an opportunity to ensure that these service members' names live on forever, their sacrifice having created opportunities to enrich the lives of others; and
- WHEREAS,** *We must Never Forget.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Raymond P. Rogina, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2017, as **Gold Star Mission Day** in the City of St. Charles, and I urge all citizens to remember the fallen across our nation, and to recognize the Gold Star families of the fallen in our community and honor the memory of all Gold Star families of every war.

SEAL:

Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor