

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War is the story of patriots who braved the line of fire, who cast themselves into harm's way to save a friend, who fought hour after hour, day after day to preserve the liberties we hold dear, From Ia Drang to Hue, they won every major battle of the war and upheld the highest traditions of our Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, this divisive war, increasingly unpopular at home, ended with the withdrawal of U.S. forces in 1973. More than three million people, including 58,000 Americans, were killed in the conflict; and

WHEREAS, thousands returned home bearing shrapnel and scars; still more were burdened by the invisible wounds of post-traumatic stress, Agent Orange, and memories that would never fade. Our veterans answered our country's call and served with honor returning home to face treatment unbecoming their courage and a welcome unworthy of their example. We must *never* let this happen again; and

WHEREAS, for the past 349 consecutive days Vietnam Veterans have stood true to their motto, "*never again will one generation of Veterans abandon another,*" meeting each morning at the Granada Bridge for a vigil bridge walk for the 200 local soldiers deployed to Afghanistan. (*Excerpts from Presidential Proclamation March 29, 2012*);

WHEREAS, our Nation stands stronger for their service, and we honor their proud legacy with our deepest gratitude this week with a special ceremony, bridge walk and a meet the Veterans event;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ed Kelley, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, do hereby proclaim March 27-April 2, 2016, as a week to show our appreciation to the Vietnam Veterans during

VIETNAM VETERANS WEEK

in the City of Ormond Beach and urge all residents to support the observance of this special week as a patriotic and heartfelt remembrance of all those who served and died for our country during the Vietnam War.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Ormond Beach, to be affixed this 27th day of March in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Sixteen.



Ed Kelley

ED KELLEY
Mayor