



PROCLAMATION

PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

Whereas, on the morning of December 7, 1941, America was attacked without warning at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, by the air and naval forces of Imperial Japan. More than 2,400 people perished and another 1,100 were wounded. Our Pacific Fleet was crippled and our air power was critically damaged; and

Whereas, the losses suffered that day shocked our Nation with the realization that American soil was not immune to the ravages of war; and

Whereas, the attack jolted our Nation and forced us into a world war of devastation and brought forth unparalleled courage and determination from soldiers and civilians alike, and

Whereas, in response, Americans answered our country's call to the battle field to work in the factories, farms, mines, and shipyards, remembering Pearl Harbor by their deeds, their devotion to duty, and their willingness to fight for freedom. The attack at Pearl Harbor filled the American spirit with a determination that freedom would not fall to tyranny; and the United States fought to victory, preserving a world in which democracy could grow; and

Whereas, it is vital that we pass on to a new generation of Americans the lessons learned from the Pearl Harbor attack, and to remain vigilant against threats to our values of democracy and freedom; and

Whereas, this Nation, State and Collin County owe a great debt to those men and women who served in the military during this time and we especially recognize today the loss of the personnel, including four Collin County sailors who went down with the U.S.S. Arizona; and

Whereas, so that future generations understand and appreciate the sacrifices that these courageous veterans made to insure our freedom, we set aside time on the 68th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor to honor those who served our Nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED that December 7, 2009 is the day set aside in Collin County as PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY.