

PROCLAMATION

OF THE

MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

IN MEMORY OF U.S. NAVY SEAL, JESSE PITTMAN, WHO GAVE HIS LIFE FOR HIS COUNTRY

WHEREAS, U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Jesse D. Pittman, while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, was killed in action on August 6, 2011, when the helicopter he was in was shot down by enemy forces in Wardak province, Afghanistan, killing 38 people onboard; and

WHEREAS, Jesse was born April 20, 1984, in Arcata, California, and moved with his family to Willits in June 1984, attending school in Willits and Redwood Valley, graduating from Willits High in 2002; and

WHEREAS, after working for Cal Fire as a seasonal firefighter for two seasons, Jesse joined the Navy, with a goal to become a Navy SEAL, fulfilling a life-long dream, he would not be deterred; and

WHEREAS, the 27-year-old officer served with a West-coast based Navy Special Warfare unit. After completing training, he reported to his West Coast-based SEAL team in April 2007. His decorations include the Joint Service Commendation Medal with 'V' device for valor; Navy Commendation Medal; two Navy Achievement Medals; Combat Action Ribbon; Afghanistan Campaign Medal; Iraq Campaign Medal; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Navy Good Conduct Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Sea Service Deployment Ribbon; Rifle Marksmanship Medal and Pistol Marksmanship Medal; and

WHEREAS, Jesse has been recalled as a "great kid"; smart, hardworking, determined, and driven; and possessed a good sense of humor which was appreciated by all; and

WHEREAS, Jesse, a very special person, developed from a normal young kid, fun-loving and goofy, to being one of America's elite, possessing an insatiable drive and succeeding in everything he made up his mind to do; and

WHEREAS, Jesse is survived by his parents, Terry and Ida Pittman of Willits, brothers, Terry Jr. and Corey, and many aunts, uncles, and cousins, and will be sorely missed by his family, friends, and fellow Navy SEALs; and

WHEREAS, Jesse will be remembered, with pride, by everyone that knew and loved him, as a hero and a wonderful person. May Jesse be a good example for us all -- he accomplished more in his 27 years than many of us will accomplish in our lifetime. He loved his country and died a hero.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby adopts this proclamation in honor and memory of U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Jesse D. Pittman, who bravely gave his life in service to our nation, and extends its heartfelt condolences to Jesse's family for their tragic loss.

Dated: September 20, 2011

Kendall Smith, Chair