

Senator Joseph A. Griffo
Proudly Announces the Introduction of the

**PURPLE
HEART**
with **Ribbon**
Forever® Stamp



D E T A I L S

An effort to honor military heroes that began in the New York State Senate 11 years ago has now resulted in the U.S. Postal Service announcing that the Purple Heart postage stamp has been classified as a “Forever” stamp, ensuring that it will continue in circulation.

The campaign to create the Purple Heart Stamp was started in November 2000, and after a massive letter writing effort by the Military Order of the Purple Heart and other veterans organizations, the stamp was first issued in 2003. Since that time, a letter writing effort to continue the Purple Heart stamp had to be conducted each time the price of a first class letter changed to ensure the stamp would continue.

The new classification as a “Forever” stamp, means that the Purple Heart postage stamp will continue in circulation and supporters will no longer need to advocate to maintain it each time the price of stamps increases.

The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to members of the U.S. military who have been wounded or killed in action. According to the Military Order of the Purple Heart, an organization for combat-wounded veterans, the medal is “the oldest military decoration in the world in present use and the first award made available to a common soldier.”

The U.S. Postal Service will officially unveil and issue the Purple Heart “Forever” stamp in San Diego on May 5, 2011.



The New York State Senate