

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON**

May 10, 2007

I send greeting to those gathered for the 75th annual National Convention of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

In 1782, General George Washington created the Purple Heart, then known as the Badge of Military Merit, to honor brave actions in the line of duty. Today, a Purple Heart is awarded to extraordinary and selfless men and women of our Armed Forces who are injured on the battlefield. These brave individuals have answered history's call with honor, decency, and resolve, and they have earned the respect and admiration of a grateful Nation by putting our country's security before their own. America owes these wounded warriors a debt that we can never fully repay, and we express deep appreciation for all Purple Heart recipients, both past and present.

On behalf of all Americans, I salute the members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart for your sacrifice, devotion to duty, and love of country. Your service reflects the best of the American spirit, and your dedication to freedom's cause will never be forgotten.

Laura and I send our best wishes for a successful convention. May God bless you, may God bless our troops, and may God bless America.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George W. Bush".