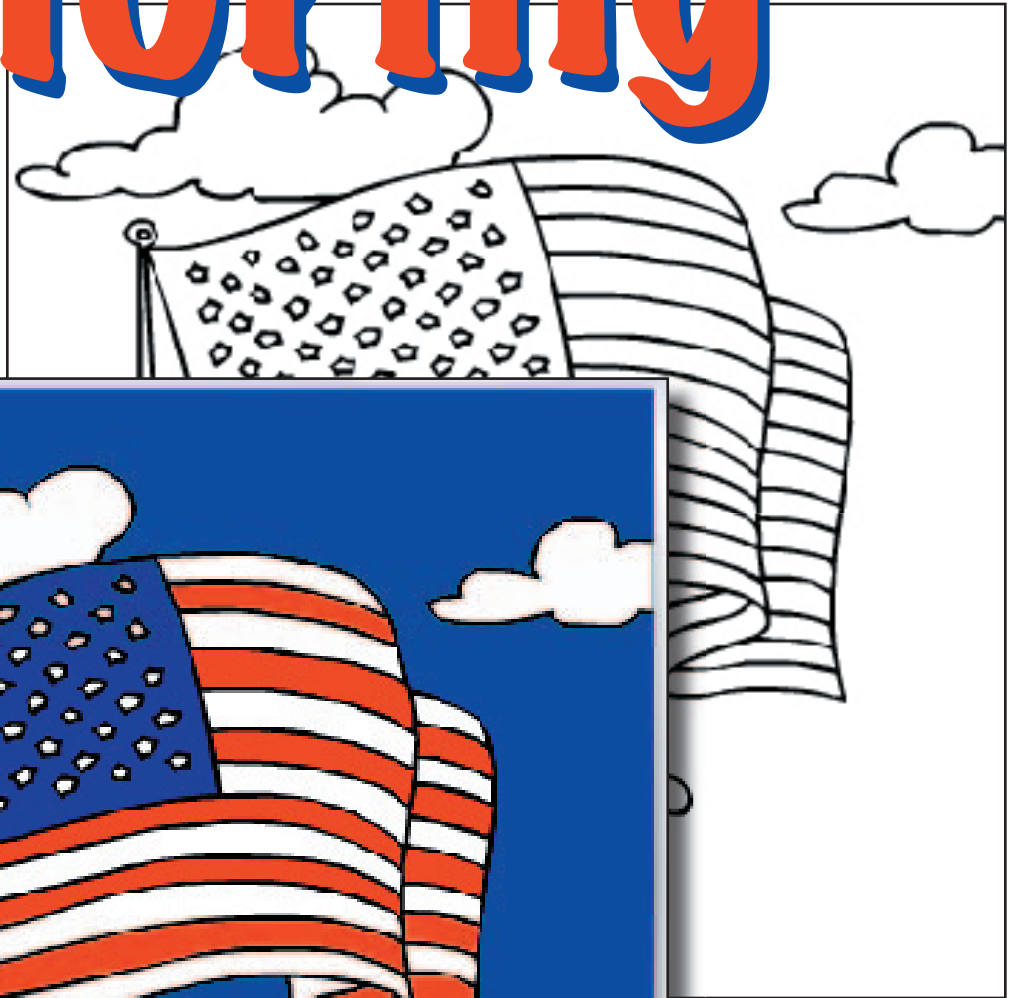


Coloring Book!

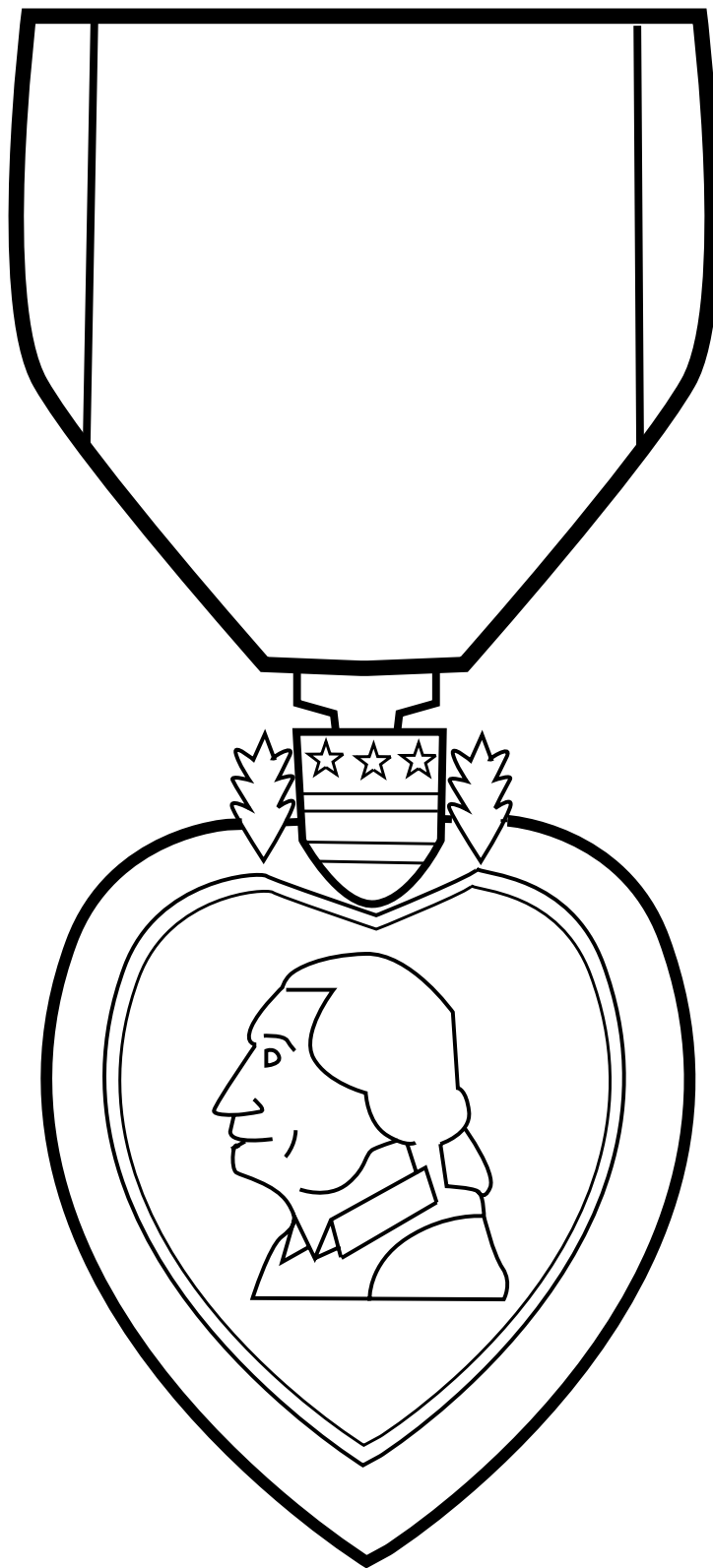


Color in your own medal and wear it in honor of
our disabled veterans



The Purple Heart is an American decoration—the oldest military decoration in the world in present use. It was the first American award made available to the common soldier. General George Washington initially created the medal when it was called the Badge of Military Merit.

The Purple Heart is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the U.S. who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy. It is presented to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die as a result of wounds received in combat. It is specifically a combat decoration.



Cited from the
Military Order of the
Purple Heart Website.
www.purpleheart.org

The Seal of the Department of Veterans Affairs

The Nike swoosh and McDonald's golden arches are both corporate America logos. A logo is a symbol that identifies a business. They are closely guarded and protected. They are worth millions of dollars. Symbols are just as important to government agencies. VA's seal was made in 1989 by David Gregory of Indianapolis. He focused on traditional American symbols.

The two flags in the eagle's talons symbolize America's history from the thirteen colonies to the present fifty states. A golden cord, symbolic of those Americans who have fallen in service to their country, binds the flags. The cord is also held by the eagle to perpetuate the memory of those veterans who have sacrificed for our Nation. The seal's colors are derived from the American flag and the natural colors of the earth, representing our Nation's commitment to its veterans.

