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Amash Presents Purple Heart

Third District veteran receives honor for wartime service

Grand Rapids, Mich. – Rep. Justin Amash presented six medals, including the Purple Heart, to retired Army Specialist Samuel N. Andres at a ceremony held at Kent County Veterans Services on Wednesday, October 14.

Spc. Andres is a veteran of the Vietnam War. On Friday, September 13, 1968, Andres and his four-man squad were attacked while on night patrol south of Pleiku. Over the course of the nearly hour-long firefight, Andres was struck by two bullets, sustaining injuries to his right leg. On the request and with the assistance of Andres's family, including his wife Mary, the United States Army approved Spc. Andres's medals, including the Purple Heart, in May 2015.

The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the president of the United States. First issued under the administration of George Washington, this prestigious award signifies that, as the result of hostile actions, the recipient was wounded or killed while actively serving our country in the United States Armed Forces.

Pictures from the ceremony are included with this release.

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