



## Citation

**Whereas**, Leonard Draper, born in Talihina, OK and raised in Wilburton, OK, is a proud member of the Choctaw Nation. Mr. Draper graduated from Wilburton High School in May 1968 then volunteered for the United States Marine Corps. He attended Recruit Training in San Diego, California. Upon graduation from Infantry School, Mr. Draper went to Okinawa, Japan before heading to Vietnam where he spent one year and achieved the rank of Lance Corporal. LCpl Draper was wounded in action in Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart and Combat Action Ribbon. After returning from Vietnam, he was released from the Marine Corps in 1970. Upon return to Oklahoma, LCpl Draper held various jobs in the ammunition plant, then he went to the oil field. In 1973, LCpl Draper began attending Northeastern Oklahoma State University where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Tourism Management and Business Economics. After graduation, he did some traveling in the United States, returning to the Wilburton area to take care of his mother, where he still resides.

**Whereas**, LCpl Draper served with the Marine Corps serving as a Mortarman and Infantry Marine. Mr. Draper achieved the rank of Lance Corporal and served in the Marine Corps from 1968 to 1970. While in the Marine Corps, LCpl Draper served in Okinawa and Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart and Combat Action Ribbon.

**Whereas**, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma holds our Veterans in the highest esteem and appreciates the sacrifices and contributions they have made to preserve our freedoms and the way of life we hold dear.

**Whereas**, the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma takes great pride in honoring Leonard Draper as "Veteran of the Month."

Now, therefore, pursuant to the motion of

**Chief Gary Batton**

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma extends to

**Leonard Draper**

Sincere commendations and directs that this citation be presented.

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Chief Gary Batton

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Assistant Chief Jack Austin Jr.

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District 6 Council Person Jennifer Woods