



**A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL OBSERVANCE OF AGENT ORANGE AWARENESS DAY ON
AUGUST 10, 2026**

WHEREAS, the County of Rutherford proudly honors the service and sacrifice of the men and women who served during the Vietnam War and recognizes the lasting impact of Agent Orange exposure on veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors; and

WHEREAS, August 10, recognized nationally as Agent Orange Awareness Day, marks the anniversary of what is believed to be the first use of Agent Orange in Vietnam on August 10, 1961 and serves as a day to remember those affected, educate future generations, and raise awareness of the ongoing health challenges associated with toxic exposure; and

WHEREAS, the Town recognizes the importance of ensuring that the sacrifices of Vietnam veterans and their families are never forgotten and supports opportunities for remembrance, healing, and public education; and

WHEREAS, this observance precedes Rutherford County's hosting of The Wall That Heals, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial replica and Mobile Education Center, at Isothermal Community College from November 12–15, 2026, providing our community a unique opportunity to honor those who served, remember those who gave their lives, and reflect upon the enduring legacy of the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of National Agent Orange Awareness Day, community volunteers will host a Sunset Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony on August 10, 2026, honoring those affected by Agent Orange and beginning a season of remembrance leading to The Wall That Heals tour stop this November;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim August 10, 2026, as Agent Orange Awareness Day in the County of Rutherford.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County of Rutherford will recognize this observance by lighting the Courthouse in orange, and at other appropriate public locations on or around August 10, 2026, as a visible symbol of remembrance, gratitude, and support for Vietnam veterans, their families, caregivers, and all those whose lives have been impacted by Agent Orange.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners encourages all residents to participate in local remembrance activities, support The Wall That Heals, wear the orange ribbon as a symbol of awareness and hope, and join together to Remember, Honor, Heal, and Educate, ensuring that no veteran or family carries this journey alone.

Adopted this 3rd day of August 2026.

Bryan A. King, Chairman

ATTEST:

Clerk, Board of Commissioners

County Commissioners

Bryan A. King, *Chairman*
Alan Toney, *Vice Chairman*
Michael Benfield

Donnie Haulk
Hunter Haynes

Bryan A. King, *Interim County Manager*
Hazel S. Haynes, *Clerk to the Board*
Richard Williams, *County Attorney*