



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Lieutenant General John C. "Clark" Griffith, born on Jan. 10, 1942, in Gadsden, Alabama, has exemplified unwavering dedication and exceptional service to his country, and our community. He and his wife Jean have been married for 61 years, and have two daughters, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS**, Lt. Gen. Griffith was commissioned through the Air Force ROTC program at the University of Alabama on June 2, 1963, and commenced active duty on Sept. 10, 1963. He served with distinction as a forward air control pilot during the Vietnam War flying 280 combat missions. He accumulated over 4,600 flying hours while showcasing remarkable courage amidst extremely hazardous conditions and hostile ground fire, earning him Command Pilot Wings"; and

**WHEREAS**, Lt. Gen. Griffith's leadership and expertise were evident in his various command and staff roles. His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal, and numerous other medals most with oak leaf clusters and stars; and

**WHEREAS**, Dates of promotions and commands include Brigadier General 1992 while Vice Commander, Ogden Air Logistics Center, Hill Air Force Base, Utah; Major General 1992 while Commander Keesler Training Center; and Lt. Gen. 1995 Commander 2<sup>nd</sup> Air Force Keesler Air Force Base. He also served as Vice Commander at Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, Randolph Air Force Base in Texas from June 1995 until he retired from the Air Force on April 1, 1998; and

**WHEREAS**, Retirement brought Lt. Gen. Griffith and Jean back to Biloxi where his exemplary leadership extended much beyond his military service. Community service of note includes 2006 Chairman, Reviving the Renaissance Biloxi Committee; Military Liaison, Biloxi Housing Authority; 2009–2013, Biloxi City Councilman Ward 4; and 2015-2023 Commissioner, Gulfport-Biloxi Regional Airport Authority.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Andrew "FoFo" Gilich, Mayor of the City of Biloxi, Mississippi, in appreciation of his unwavering commitment, exceptional bravery, and selfless service to his nation and our community, do hereby proclaim and elevate:

**John C. "Clark" Griffith,  
Lieutenant General USAF Retired  
"MOST DISTINGUISHED BILOXIAN"**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
and official seal of the City of Biloxi, Mississippi  
on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024

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Andrew "FoFo" Gilich, Mayor  
City of Biloxi, Mississippi