



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **ACC, AVM Support Team honor Elizabeth Turner with 2016 Veterans Service Award**

**Anthem, Ariz.** – Anthem resident Elizabeth Turner was honored by the Anthem Community Council (ACC) and the Anthem Veterans Memorial Support Team (AVMST) with the 2016 Anthem Veterans Service Award at the Veterans Day Ceremony on Nov. 11.

At the request of the AVMST, the ACC created the Anthem Veterans Service Award in 2013. The award is presented annually to an individual or group to recognize “extraordinary service and selfless dedication in support of our nation’s veterans.”

A plaque with the names of recipients is on display at the Anthem Civic Building. Past winners include Daisy Mountain Veterans in 2013, Ray Norris in 2014 and Mary Ann Derryberry in 2015.

Turner has been instrumental in organizing and coordinating events honoring veterans, personally performing outreach to veterans and their families to help honor and memorialize their service. She established a program to educate school children about the service and sacrifice of our veterans, and raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support the Anthem Veterans Memorial, for which she served as a key member of the planning committee.

Ryan Halleran, President of the ACC Board of Directors said, “Liz organized and successfully executed plans for fundraising, paver sales and marketing of the Memorial. She developed the plan and managed the dedication ceremony, as well as this year’s fifth anniversary celebration, and every detail of every ceremony in between. Her perseverance and determination is unmatched.”

Quotes from her nominations include the following:

- “Liz personally reached out to hundreds of veterans and active duty military members to glean and retell their stories, assist them with paver purchases and placement, and welcome them home after deployments.”
- “Liz developed relationships with local schools and personally conducted numerous teaching sessions for students at the AVM to enhance understanding and appreciation for the service and sacrifice of veterans.”

The AVMST is an affiliate group of the ACC. With the dedication of the Anthem Veterans Memorial on Nov. 11, 2011, the extraordinary vision and efforts of the Veterans Memorial Planning Committee (now known as the AVMST) became a lasting legacy to the nation’s veterans.

### **The Anthem Veterans Memorial**

The Nov. 11 Veterans Day Ceremony at the Anthem Veterans Memorial saw a record crowd in attendance for the fifth anniversary affair. Military members, both retired and active duty from all five branches, honored combat veterans and their families from each of the wars in the nation’s history. At exactly 11:11 a.m., the sun shone through the five ellipses of the AVM and a spotlight was cast on the Great Seal of the United States as a thunderous flyover, provided by the Luke Air Force Base F-16 Fighting Falcons, filled the air.

Learn more about the Memorial by visiting [OnlineAtAnthem.com/AVM](http://OnlineAtAnthem.com/AVM).

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