

CITY OF WINTER PARK proclamation

U.S. Army Major General John Raaen Day | September 17, 2025

WHEREAS, the son of an Army officer, John Raaen graduated from the Military Academy at West Point in January 1943; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 1944, D-Day, Captain John Raaen led the Allied forces as they stormed the beaches in Normandy, France; and

WHEREAS, Raaen received a Silver Star of valor for his service in the 5th Ranger Infantry Battalion during the D-Day invasion when he was 22 years-old; and

WHEREAS, in a 36-year military career Raaen went on to serve in Korea and Vietnam, retiring as a Major General; and

WHEREAS, involved in the development of anti-tank projectiles, armor-piercing small arms ammunition, artillery nuclear warheads and arming devices, Raaen was inducted into the U.S. Army Ordnance Hall of Fame in 2009; and

WHEREAS, today, September 17, Major General John Raaen (U.S. Army Retired) will receive the Congressional Gold Medal, a prestigious recognition of his distinguished achievement and service to our nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sheila DeCiccio, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Winter Park, in the state of Florida, do hereby proclaim **Wednesday, September 17, 2025**, to be **U.S. Army Major General John Raaen Day** in the City of Winter Park, Florida, in recognition of Major General Raaen's lifetime of dedicated service to our country and the freedoms he so honorably protected.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Winter Park, Florida, to be affixed this 17th day of September 2025.

Sheila DeCiccio
Mayor