

## *History of the medal: The Pink Heart*

*Apart from being a veteran of three wars, I am also a three-time cancer survivor. Honestly speaking, the times when diagnosed positive, I never felt sad or sorry. I knew my doctors at the Veterans Hospital were going to fix me, and so, they did. Sometime later, the rules of the game were changed. My wife, the love of my life for forty-four years, was diagnosed with Breast Cancer. Although at the Comprehensive Cancer Center in San Juan, Puerto Rico, her doctor gave us good news telling us it was curable, I felt helpless.*

*I Anticipated everything would be fine when the long-awaited moment of “ringing the bell” arrived. That instant, declaring my wife cancer-free, I wanted her to receive a symbol that would accentuate her victory.*

*In the military, our wounded and fallen in combat are presented with the medal; *The Purple Heart*. In the civilian world, such recognition didn't exist. With this in mind, I designed for my wife; *The Pink Heart Medal*.*

*I will be extremely honored if anyone whose life has been touched by this horrible disease, joins in this recognition of celebrating the valor and resilience of cancer patients and survivors. Furthermore, to remember and honor the lives that destiny claimed.*

*Alfonso Flores*