



THE NAVAJO NATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

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Navajo President Joe Shirley, Jr., orders flags to half-staff in honor of the late Justice of the Peace Merwin Lynch, 78

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., has ordered flags on the Navajo Nation to be flown at half-staff beginning today through sundown Saturday in honor of the late Justice of the Peace Mervin Lynch who died Jan. 9. He was 78.

“The Navajo Nation unites and offers prayers for his family during this time of grief,” President Shirley said.

Flags will be flown at half-staff from sunrise January 13 until sundown January 16. A memorial service for Judge Lynch will be at the Fort Defiance Field House at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

Judge Lynch began his legal career as a prosecutor in Window Rock in the 1970s. He was appointed director of the Navajo Division Community Development in 1983 in the first administration for Navajo Chairman Peterson Zah.

He served as the Justice of the Peace for the Puerco District of Apache County in Sanders, Ariz., served as a Navajo Nation tribal judge from 1976 until 1979, and, when designated, served as chief justice of the Navajo Nation Supreme Court.

Judge Lynch served in communications in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was honorably discharged with the rank of Sgt. First Class.

Judge Lynch is survived by his wife Phoebe, a brother Hugh Lynch, a sister Thelma, daughters Christine, Carol, Michelle, Dorothea and Tracy, and sons Merwin Allen, Gregory, Charles, Matthew, and Merv.

For more information, please call Matthew Lynch at 505-870-8686.

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