



Proclamation

In Honor of the late Navajo Code Talker Joe Antonio Silversmith

We, the Navajo People, were very fortunate to contribute our language as a code for our country's victory. For this I strongly recommend we teach our children the language our ancestors were blessed with at the beginning of time. It is very sacred and represents the power of life. ~ Code Talker Kee Etsicitty, 3rd Division

WHEREAS, The Navajo Nation is greatly saddened by the loss of the late U.S. Marine Corporal, Joe Antonio Silversmith, age 86; and

WHEREAS, The late Joe Antonio Silversmith was a renowned Navajo Code Talker who received the Silver Congressional Medal of Honor and served the United States of America, the Navajo Nation, and U.S. Marine Corps with valor, honor, and distinction; and

WHEREAS, The late Joe Antonio Silversmith endured combat in the Pacific Theatre in Guam, Bougainville, Okinawa, the Northern Solomon Islands, Marianas Islands, and the Ryukyu Islands from March 1943 to 1946; and

WHEREAS, The late Joe Antonio Silversmith was a beloved member of the Coolidge and Thoreau, New Mexico communities; and

WHEREAS, The Nation unites in prayer with his family and friends during this time of grief.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEN SHELLY, President of the Navajo Nation, do hereby proclaim that all flags shall be flown at half-staff in honor of Navajo Code Talker, Joe Antonio Silversmith, from March 2, through March 5, 2011.

ORDERED THIS 2ND DAY OF MARCH 2011


Ben Shelly, President
THE NAVAJO NATION