



THE NAVAJO NATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

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Navajo soldier, Sgt. Christopher Neil Gonzales, reported killed in Iraq

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – A member of the Navajo Nation on his third tour of duty in Iraq was reportedly killed in action on Monday, May 14.

U.S. Army Sgt. Christopher Neil Gonzales, 25, of Birdsprings, Ariz., was killed on duty, according to his mother, Judy Nez.

The Department of Defense has not yet issued any information, and his family said they were awaiting details.

Sgt. Gonzales is survived by his wife Tonita Gonzales and five-year-old son, Breenen. He is also survived by his mother, Judy Nez, and his grandparents, Julius and Betty Nez.

Sgt. Gonzales is the eighth Navajo soldier to be killed on duty in Iraq or Afghanistan.

On Tuesday, Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., issued a proclamation in honor and in recognition of Sgt. Gonzales' sacrifice. He also ordered that flags on the Navajo Nation are to be flown at half-staff from May 16 to May 20 in honor of Sgt. Gonzales.

"It is another very sad day that brings us the news of the loss of another of our soldiers, another of our sons," President Shirley said. "Our prayers are with his entire family, his wife, his young son, his mother, and his grandparents."

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