Navajo President Joe Shirley, Jr., orders flags to half-staff in honor of the late U.S. Army Specialist Christopher J. Moon

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., yesterday ordered flags on the Navajo Nation to be flown at half-staff from sunrise July 20, 2010, until sundown July 25, 2010 in honor and recognition of the late U.S. Army Specialist Christopher J. Moon.

Spc. Moon, 20, of Tucson, Ariz., died July 13 from wounds received on July 6 while conducting a combat patrol in the Arghandab River Valley, Afghanistan.

He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C.

“All of the Navajo Nation grieves the loss of another of our young men defending freedom,” President Shirley said. “Specialist Christopher Moon was an exemplary young man and soldier, and our hearts go out to his family. His service will always be remembered.”

Funeral services for Spc. Moon will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 24, at Christ Community Church, 7801 East Kenyon Dr., between 22nd and Broadway on Pantano.

Internment will be at East Lawn Mortuary and Cemetery at 5801 East Grant Road in Tucson.

Spc. Moon was a 2007 graduate of Tucson High Magnet School.

He was named the Southern Arizona high school baseball Player of the Year in 2006, which will now be named in his honor.

Spc. Moon is survived by his parents Marsha Begay Moon and Brian Moon of Tucson, his sister Sunday, his grandparents Loretta and Harry Begay of Gray Mountain, his aunts Charlene “Chucki” Begay of Gallup, N.M., and Alberta Begay of Tucson, his uncles Wesley Begay and Harrison Begay of Phoenix, Kenneth Begay of Cameron, and many nephews and nieces.

He is the 12th Navajo Nation serviceman killed in the war on Terror in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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