



The Navajo Nation
Office of the President and Vice President

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 8, 2022

Flags to be flown at half-staff in honor of Vietnam War veteran and Diné leader Dan Y. Begay

WINDOW ROCK Ariz. — On Friday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer issued a proclamation calling for all flags on the Navajo Nation to be flown at half-staff on Saturday, April 9, 2022, in honor and remembrance of Diné Purple Heart veteran Dan Y. Begay, who passed away on April 5, 2022 at the age of 78. He is Tsé deeshgizhnii (Rock Gap Clan) and born for Naakai Dine'é (Mexican Clan), and was originally from Forest Lake, Ariz.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with the family, friends, and fellow veterans of the late Dan Y. Begay, who served our country in the Vietnam War and as President of Forest Lake Chapter. With this proclamation, the Navajo Nation pays tribute to his life and everything that he gave for our freedom and the Great Navajo Nation. We pray that his family takes comfort in knowing that he is now at peace with God,” said President Nez.



Begay served in the United States Marine Corps in the Vietnam War and was awarded three Purple Heart medals for his service in combat. Following his military service, Begay also served as the Vice President and President of his hometown community of Forest Lake, Ariz. He was also an electrician and worked in the social services field.

“We thank God for the life and service of Dan Y. Begay. There is no doubt that he impacted the lives of many and we will always cherish his service and contributions. Words are not enough to

recognize and thank him and his family for their sacrifices to our country and the Navajo Nation. Together, we pray for strength and comfort for his loved ones,” said Vice President Lizer.

Dan Y. Begay will be laid to rest during a private family service on April 9, 2022 at a family plot in Forest Lake, Ariz. The family is accepting donations through Zelle at (928) 225-6709 a GoFundMe account under Dan Y. Begay.

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THE NAVAJO NATION

Proclamation

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF U.S. MARINE CORPS VETERAN DAN Y. BEGAY

THE NAVAJO NATION honors the life of our Diné Warrior, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Dan Y. Begay. We are very grateful for his contributions to the Navajo Nation and the United States and offer this special recognition:

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation is greatly saddened by the loss of Dan Y. Begay of Forest Lake, Arizona, who is Tsé deeshgizhnii (Rock Gap Clan) and born for Naakai Dine'é (Mexican Clan); and

WHEREAS, we honor Begay for his service in the United States Marine Corps in the Vietnam War for which he was awarded three Purple Heart medals, and for his service to the Navajo People as Vice President and President of Forest Lake Chapter; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation offers its prayers and condolences to family, including his six children, his friends and community members.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jonathan Nez, President of the Navajo Nation, and **I, Myron Lizer**, Vice President of the Navajo Nation, do hereby proclaim that all flags on the Navajo Nation shall be flown at half-staff on April 9, 2022, to honor the memory and service of the late U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Dan Y. Begay.

ORDERED THIS 8th DAY OF APRIL 2022

Handwritten signature of Jonathan Nez in black ink.

Jonathan Nez, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION

Handwritten signature of Myron Lizer in black ink.

Myron Lizer, *Vice President*
THE NAVAJO NATION