Navajo Nation pays tribute to late Diné leader Arthur E. Tracy, Sr.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer issued a proclamation on Sunday, in honor and remembrance of former Navajo Nation Council Delegate Arthur E. Tracy, Sr., who passed away due to natural causes on Jan. 14, 2022 at the age of 80. Tracy is Tódíchi’ii’nii (Bitter Water Clan) and born for Deeshchi’ii’nii (Start of the Red Streak Clan). He was born on June 28, 1941 and was a lifelong resident of Nazlini, Ariz.

During his lifetime, Tracy served in many leadership roles including as a member of the Navajo Nation Council, Nazlini Chapter President and Chapter Manager, President of the Nazlini Senior Center Local Senior Citizens Council, and a board member for Nazlini Community School, Greyhills Academy, Sage Memorial Hospital, and Chinle health facility. He is the father of Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources Executive Director, Dr. Rudy Shebala.

“On behalf of the Navajo Nation, we offer our thoughts and prayers to the family and the Nazlini community for the loss of our Diné leader, Arthur Tracy, Sr. Throughout his lifetime, he was a devoted family man and public servant. We thank him and his family for their contributions and sacrifices to our Nation. May his family take comfort in knowing that he is no longer in pain and is now with God,” said President Nez.
As a young man, Tracy was a rancher, heavy equipment operator, and educational aide at Nazlini Boarding School. He also served as a Peacemaker with the Chinle Judicial Court. His family recalls that Tracy was a person of great faith who believed in God, the Native American Church, and Navajo traditions and culture. He was also a member of the White Eagle Gourd Dance Society, and Boy Scouts leader, and a loyal Dallas Cowboys fan.

“Mr. Tracy was truly a blessing to the Nazlini community and the entire Navajo Nation. His spirit lives on through the teachings, wisdom, and the legacy that he leaves behind for all of us. Through our faith, we know that he is with God and that he is now watching over his loved ones. We offer our prayers and we pay tribute to the life he lived and all that he gave,” said Vice President Lizer.

Council Delegate Kee Allen Begay, Jr., who represents the Nazlini community as a member of the 24th Navajo Nation Council stated, “I appreciate the strong leadership exemplified by Mr. Tracy. His advocacy for the Nazlini community helped to lay the groundwork for several ongoing and completed community projects that current leadership continues to work on. One primary project is N27, which was recently completed and now provides a safer route for many local residents. I offer my condolences to the Tracy and Shebala family.”

Tracy was preceded in death by his wife Vennie F. Tracy. Survivors include their children Dr. Rudy Shebala, Lorinda Ben, Alvin Shebala, Lamentino Shebala, Arthur Tracy, Jr., and Melinda Nakai, and 19 grandchildren, and 32 great-grandchildren. Arthur E. Tracy will be laid to rest during a private family ceremony on Jan. 18, 2022.

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THE NAVAJO NATION

Proclamation

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
DINÉ LEADER ARTHUR E. TRACY, SR.

THE NAVAJO NATION honors the life of Diné Leader, Arthur E. Tracy, Sr. We are very grateful for his contributions to the Navajo Nation and offer this special recognition:

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation is greatly saddened by the loss of former Council Delegate Arthur E. Tracy, Sr., originally from Nazlini, Arizona. He is Tódičhi’ii’nii (Bitter Water Clan) and born for Deeshchii’nii (Start of the Red Streak Clan); and

WHEREAS, Tracy served in many leadership roles including as a member of the Navajo Nation Council, Nazlini Chapter President and Chapter Manager, President of the Nazlini Senior Center Local Senior Citizens Council, and a board member for Nazlini Community School, Greyhills Academy, Sage Memorial Hospital, and Chinle health facility; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation honors the late Arthur E. Tracy, Sr., for his service to the Nazlini community and the Navajo People; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jonathan Nez, President of the Navajo Nation, and I, Myron Lizer, Vice President of the Navajo Nation, do hereby issue this proclamation in honor and memory of our Diné leader, Arthur E. Tracy, Sr. of Nazlini, Arizona.

PROCLAIMED THIS 16th DAY OF JANUARY 2022

Jonathan Nez, President
THE NAVAJO NATION

Myron Lizer, Vice President
THE NAVAJO NATION