



The Navajo Nation
Office of the President and Vice President

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 7, 2022

**President Nez honors the life of
Vietnam War veteran Raymond Lee Yazzie, Sr.**

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — On Thursday, 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 Monday, July 11, 2022, in honor and remembrance of Vietnam War veteran Raymond Lee Yazzie, Sr., who passed away on July 4, 2022 at the age of 71.

He is Hasht ł 'ishnii (Mud Clan) and born for Tábaqahá (Water Edge Clan). His maternal grandfather was Kin fichii'nii (Red House Clan) and his paternal grandfather was Táchii'nii (Red Running into the Water Clan). He was originally from Tótikan, Ariz.

Yazzie joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1975 and served in the Vietnam War before being honorably discharged with the rank of Corporal. He earned the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, the Expert Shooting Badge, and Marksman Pistol Shooting Badge.



“On behalf of the Navajo Nation, we offer our condolences to the family and community of our beloved veteran, Raymond Lee Yazzie, Sr., who gave of himself throughout his life to help and serve others. We honor and remember his life of service for our country and we give thanks to his wife, Julia, their children and extended family. We pray that his family takes comfort in knowing that he is now with God at this time,” said President Nez.

Following his military service, Yazzie joined an ironworker’s union and became a welder working across the country until he retired after a 34-year career. He was well-known for offering his

assistance to many local residents who needed maintenance and mechanic work, for advocating for veterans and senior citizens, and helping with chapter activities and initiatives.

“Raymond was loved by many, family, friends, relatives, coworkers, and community members. He was always a father, husband, grandfather, a son, and a brother first. He loved his family and often said it. His hobbies were traveling, camping, fishing, loved movies, and rock and roll. He had a deep love for God, our Heavenly Father, His son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost. He is already missed and will be missed for many years to come,” his family stated.

Yazzie is survived by his beloved wife Julia Yazzie, their children Vickie L. MacDonald, Eugene R. Yazzie, Marsha L. Minnick, Karena L. Yazzie, Raymond L. Yazzie, Jr., and Sean R. Yazzie, 15 grandchildren and six great grandchildren, his mother Betty Lee Yazzie, and five siblings. He was preceded in death by his son, Donald R. Yazzie.

“May God continue to comfort his wife, mother, and all of his loved ones during this difficult time. By all accounts, he was a loving and giving person who left behind a great legacy for his family and community. Together, we join in prayer and ask our Creator for strength and understanding for his family,” said Vice President Lizer.

Funeral services for the late Raymond Lee Yazzie, Sr. are scheduled for Monday, July 11, 2022. The contact for the family is Yazzie’s daughter, Vickie L. MacDonald, who can be reached by phone at (505) 516-6867.

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THE NAVAJO NATION

Proclamation

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF VIETNAM WAR VETERAN RAYMOND LEE YAZZIE, SR.

THE NAVAJO NATION honors the life of our Diné Warrior, Vietnam War Veteran Raymond Lee Yazzie, Sr. We are very grateful for his contributions to the Navajo Nation and the United States and offer this special recognition:

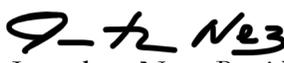
WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation is greatly saddened by the loss of Raymond Lee Yazzie, Sr. of Tólikan, Arizona. He is Hasht l 'ishnii (Mud Clan) and born for Tábaqahá (Water Edge Clan). His maternal grandfather was Kin l ichii'nii (Red House Clan) and his paternal grandfather was Táchii'nii (Red Running into the Water Clan); and

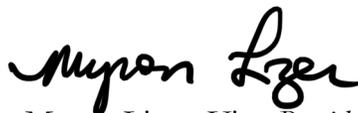
WHEREAS, we honor Yazzie for his service in the United States Marine Corps for which he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, the Expert Shooting Badge, and Marksman Pistol Shooting Badge; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation offers its prayers and condolences to wife, children, extended family members, 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 July 11, 2022, to honor the memory and service of the late Vietnam War Veteran Raymond Lee Yazzie, Sr.

ORDERED THIS 7th DAY OF JULY 2022


Jonathan Nez, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION


Myron Lizer, *Vice President*
THE NAVAJO NATION