



Navajo Nation Council observes passing of Kee Yazzie Mann, former delegate and presidential candidate

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PHOTO: Kee Yazzie Mann, a former member of the Navajo Nation Council, passed on Sept. 23. The 24th Navajo Nation Council observed a moment of silence at its Sept. 24 special session.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council observed the passing of former 21st Navajo Nation Council Delegate Kee Yazzie Mann (Kaibeto) during a moment of silence at Thursday's special session.

“One of the Navajo Nation’s finest leaders went on to the spirit world yesterday morning my fellow leaders,” stated Council Delegate Paul Begay (Coppermine, K’ai’bii’tó, LeChee, Tonalea/Red Lake, Bodaway/Gap). “Today we remember his life and his family.”

Mann, 75, was Yé’ii Dine’é Táchii’nii, born for Naadáalgai Dine’é Tábaahá, his maternal grandparents were Tl’izíhání and his paternal grandparents were Honágháahnii. He was remembered as a Navajo cowboy who was an active participant in the annual horseback ride to the Navajo Nation Council Chamber ahead of the Council’s summer sessions.

The Council was informed by Delegate Edmund Yazzie (Churchrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith Lake, Thoreau), who served with Mann on the 21st Navajo Nation Council, that Mann attended Phoenix Indian School and went on to earn degrees in criminal justice and sociology from Northern Arizona University. He later became a prosecutor and attorney for the Navajo Nation, ultimately joining the 21st Navajo Nation Council.

Delegate Otto Tso (Tónaneesdizí) and Delegate Rickie Nez (T'iistsoh Sikaad, Nenahnezad, Upper Fruitland, Tsé Daa K'aan, Newcomb, San Juan) also expressed their sentiments, reiterating Mann's service to the Navajo Nation.

"He was a great leader who set the example and always made sure to make time for his family and his beloved cat," shared Delegate Yazzie, recalling fond memories of the late Mann.

Mann also served as vice president of the Kaibeto Chapter in 1987 and served as a school board member. He passed Sept. 23 battling cancer.

Mann leaves a spouse, two children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Monetary donations for funeral expenses may be sent to the family through daughter Kimberly Belone at:

Zelle: kimbelone@gmail.com

Paypal: <https://paypal.me/kimbelone>

Venmo: www.venmo.com/KimBelone

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