



## Navajo Nation observes passing of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg

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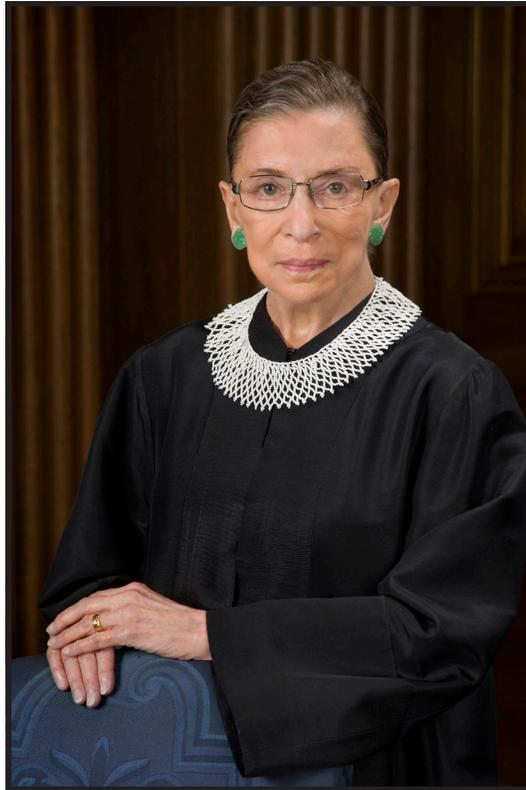


PHOTO: A portrait of United States Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** — Speaker Seth Damon (Baahaali, Chilchiltah, Manuelito, Red Rock, Rock Springs, Tsayatoh) and members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council expressed condolences on the passing of United States Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg on Friday. Justice Ginsberg sat on nation’s highest court for 27 years until her passing.

“The Navajo Nation recognizes the passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg,” said Speaker Damon. “Justice Ginsberg’s opinions did not always align with the view tribal nations maintain when it comes to unique trust relationships we have with the federal government. But it is those opinions that strengthen decisions relating to our ability to exist as a nation within a nation. We thank Justice Ginsberg for her service to the People of the United States and we wish her well as she continues her journey.”

Justice Ginsberg served as Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit from 1980 to 1993. She was nominated by President William Clinton in 1993 to serve on the US Supreme Court, and has since served as an Associate Justice following her confirmation.

Justice Ginsberg was the second woman to serve on the US Supreme Court, where she brought an extensive background in gender equality and women's rights legal advocacy.

Council Delegate Carl Roessel Slater (Round Rock, Rock Point, Tséché'izí, Lukachugai, Tsaille-Wheatfields) said, "Toward the end of her life, Justice Ginsburg expressed her desire for the president to appoint a Native American woman to the Court. I call on the president to honor the distinguished jurist's wishes, and make a bold step for justice for American Indians."

Ginsberg died Sept. 18 due to complications from pancreatic cancer. She was 87.

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