



23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACTS

Jared Touchin (928) 221-9253
Jolene Holgate (928) 380-4174
Crystalyne Curley (928) 286-7918
nnlb.communications@gmail.com

Navajo Nation Council offers condolences to the family of former Navajo leader Irving Marcus Billy

WINDOW ROCK – Speaker LoRenzo Bates and the 23rd Navajo Nation Council offer their heartfelt condolences to the family and loved ones of former council delegate and interim chairman of the Navajo Nation, Irving Marcus Billy, who passed away last Friday at the age of 77.

“The Navajo Nation Council sends our sincerest condolences to the family of Irving Billy, a great family man who served the Navajo people and exemplified great leadership for the Navajo Nation,” said Speaker Bates.

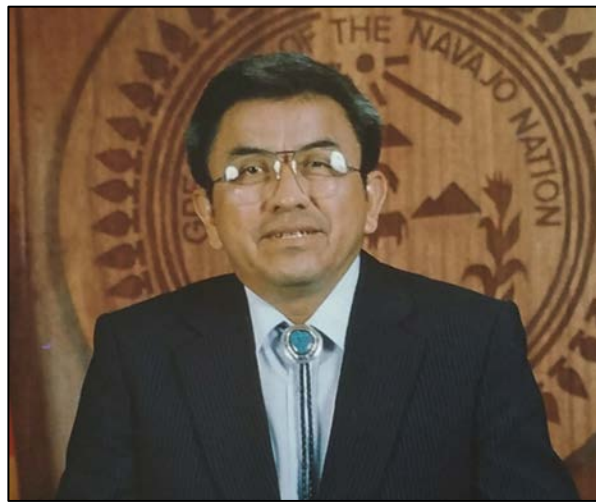


PHOTO: Former Navajo Nation Council Delegate and interim Vice Chairman Irving Marcus Billy.

Billy was born in Keams Canyon, Arizona and resided in the community of Tuba City. He was Kinyaa’áanii (Towering House People), born for Nát’oh Dine’é Táchii’nii (Tobacco People Red-Running-Into-The-Water Clan), his maternal grandfather was Tsé Nj́kiní (Cliff Dwelling Clan), and his paternal grandfather was Tódích’ii’nii (Bitter Water Clan).

Billy served on the Navajo Nation Council beginning in 1987, representing the communities of Tuba City and Coalmine Canyon, and as vice chairman of the Navajo Nation from 1989 to 1991 under former chairman Leonard Haskie. He also previously served as a member of the board for Tuba City Boarding School.

“Mr. Billy was known throughout the local communities as a compassionate man who cared very much for his family, his community, and all Navajo people,” stated Council Delegate Otto Tso, who represents the community of Tuba City. “We offer our prayers and condolences to his children, grandchildren, and many others who loved him.”

The Office of the Speaker and the Navajo Nation Council will present a letter of condolence and a Navajo Nation flag to the family of Irving Marcus Billy during his funeral service on Tuesday.

The funeral service for Irving Marcus Billy is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (DST) at the St. Jude Catholic Church in Tuba City, Arizona.

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