



The 24TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL
Office of the Speaker

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Speaker Damon, 24th Navajo Nation Council mourn loss of Councilman Benjamin Hogue

WINDOW ROCK – Jan. 11, 2020 – Speaker Seth Damon (Baahaali, Chichiltah, Manuelito, Red Rock, Rock Springs, Tsayatoh) and the 24th Navajo Nation Council expressed condolences to the family and friends of the late Navajo Nation Council Delegate Benjamin Hogue (T'iis Tsoh Sikaad), after his Jan. 3 passing.

Speaker Damon provided the family with a letter honoring Council Delegate Hogue and a Navajo Nation Flag for his many years of dedicated and faithful service to the Navajo people. “We appreciate his service as a Naat’áanii for the Navajo Nation and we will respectfully carry on his memory,” he said

Council Delegate Rickie Nez said the community is paying respect to Council Delegate Hogue. “Mr. Hogue was a very calm and wise man who taught leadership by example. He loved his family and his people,” he said.

Tiis Tsoh Sikaad Chapter President Perry Begaye said Council Delegate Hogue was a pillar to his community and that his focus was always on improving the quality of life for Navajo people. “Before the chapter house was built in 1960, the community used to meet under a tree for the chapter meetings,” he said. “With the help of the community, the current building was constructed under (Hogue’s) leadership.”

Councilman Hogue served on the Navajo Nation Council from 1963-1979. Begaye said the community rallied around Hogue’s gung-ho personality and knowledge of the issues facing the community. “He was my uncle and I knew him as an outgoing person and a very good listener. He would provide recommendations and resolutions, that was why they put him in as delegate,” he said.

Hogue was born in 1930 and was laid to rest Jan. 6 at the age of 88. Begaye said that although Tiis Tsoh Sikaad is one of the smallest chapters on the Navajo Nation, Hogue helped to elevate his community’s status on the Navajo Nation.

The community is considering construction of a memorial to honor his service. “He built the foundation. Many officials have come after him. We relied on his expertise, knowledge and wisdom. He was a strong believer in pulling together the people and moving them forward as one,” he said. “He was one of the few people that built the foundation of what the chapter is today and the community.”

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