



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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Navajo Nation Council pays tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. Louva Dahozy

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – The 25th Navajo Nation Council honors the life of Dr. Louva Dahozy, a revered Diné matriarch, educator, and community leader, who passed away at the age of 99 on Tuesday morning, according to an official notice from her family.

On behalf of the 25th Navajo Nation Council, Speaker Crystalyne Curley offers her prayers and condolences to Dr. Dahozy's family. Speaker Curley said Dr. Dahozy was a champion of change.

"Dr. Dahozy believed in change through personal responsibility, healthier lifestyles, and active civic engagement," said Speaker Curley. "Through her advocacy for Native representation in government, she helped open doors for many candidates to serve their communities for the first time. Dr. Dahozy honored the Council by providing the invocation and National Anthem during the 2025 Winter Council Session."



Dr. Louva Dahozy provided the invocation and National Anthem during the 2025 Winter Council Session.

Dr. Dahozy was of the Hashk'aa Hadzohi clan and born for the Kinyaa'áanii. Her maternal grandfathers are Tłizí Łaní, and her paternal grandfathers are Táchiinii. Originally from Tolani Lake, she later made her home in Fort Defiance. She was married to Wilson Dahozy Sr.

She is survived by her daughters, Katherine D. Arviso, Dinah D. Wauneka, and Eva D. Platero; her son, Rodger Dahozy; and by the memory of her late son, Wilson Dahozy Jr.

Dr. Dahozy's service to the Navajo Nation spanned several decades and encompassed numerous initiatives that strengthened economic opportunity, nutrition, education, and public health. Her leadership helped shape programs and institutions that continue to benefit Navajo communities today.

Among her many accomplishments, Dr. Dahozy served as the first chairperson of the North American Indian Women Association and was a co-founder of the National Indian Council on Aging and the Navajo Nation Council on Aging, demonstrating her lifelong advocacy for Native leadership and elder issues.

In recognition of her contributions, the University of Arizona honored Dr. Dahozy with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 1994. In 2022, she received an Honorary Doctorate in Science from the University of Arizona College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

A strong proponent of language preservation and public education, Dr. Dahozy produced and recorded daily episodes of Navajo Homemakers Radio Education, a program for which she helped secure federal funding. The program emphasized healthy foods, nutrition, and family well-being. She was the author of two books, *The Navajo Homemaker Cookbook* and *Navajo Terminology of Food and Nutrition*.

Council Delegate Dr. Andy Nez said Dr. Dahozy was the mother of the Navajo Nation, a Diné 'asdzaa' who truly epitomized the role of a matriarch with a fearless commitment to all Diné.

"She served our community and the greater Navajo Nation with grit and purpose, and many of those achievements we still see today, such as voting rights, healthy living, and animal care," said Dr. Nez. "Her legacy is forged in community engagement for the betterment of the Navajo people and the preservation of our language and culture."

The 25th Navajo Nation Council extends its prayers and condolences to the family of Dr. Louva Dahozy during this time of mourning. The Dahozy family is accepting donations for her services. For more information, please contact Katherine Arviso at (505) 870-1966.

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