

Longtime Navajo Nation EMS Manager Henry Wallace dies

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WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.— Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer offer their condolences and prayers for the family of Henry Wallace, the longtime department manager for the Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Medical Services. He passed away Sept. 28 at the age of 71.

“To his wife, children and colleagues, we offer our prayers and condolences for the loss of one of our Nation’s frontline warriors,” Nez said. “In his 48 years of service to the Navajo Nation, he served our Navajo people with great honor and made a difference in so many lives.

“By all accounts, he was a loving and compassionate family man who always put others before himself. We ask our Creator for strength and comfort [for] his wife, Lavene and the rest of his family during this difficult time,” Nez concluded.

Wallace began his service with the Navajo Nation on June 10, 1972, as a patrol officer with the Navajo Police Department. He then served as the Manager of the Department of Emergency Medical Services until the time of his passing.

“It’s a sad and difficult time for the entire Navajo Nation as we grieve with the family of Mr. Wallace. To his family, we offer our thoughts and prayers,” Lizer said. “During this COVID-19 pandemic, all of our frontline warriors are making great sacrifices and going above the call of duty to keep us safe and healthy.

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“We will continue to pray for his family and all of his friends and colleagues, including those who continue to serve on the frontlines,” Lizer stated.

Wallace was originally from Querino Canyon, Ariz., located near the community of Houck on the Navajo Nation. He is survived by his wife, Lavene Wallace, three children, and six grandchildren and was preceded in death by his eldest daughter.

“We are deeply saddened by the unexpected passing of Mr. Henry Wallace, Department Manager for Navajo EMS. Mr. Wallace had developed Navajo EMS to what it is today and remained as the Manager for many years,” Chris Kescoli, EMT supervisor/delegate department manager said. “The EMS community mourns his loss and sends our sincere condolences to the Wallace family,” he said

A private family service was held for Henry Wallace on Oct. 3, 2020.