



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE
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*****NEWS RELEASE*****

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Rick Lupe Memorial Service Scheduled

[Whiteriver, Arizona]-A memorial service for Rick Lupe will be held on Wednesday, June 25, at 1:00 p.m. in the Alchesay Activity Center in Whiteriver, Arizona. Wakes will be held at the family residence in North Fork on Monday and Tuesday night, burial will be in the Canyon Day cemetery.

Rick Lupe was severely burned in a prescribed fire burnover on May 14, 2003. He had been in the Maricopa County Medical Center Burn Unit for the past five weeks where he passed away on Thursday, June 19.

His wife Evelyn, and three sons, Sean, Daniel and Brent survive him. Rick was a member of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and a Fuel Specialist for the Bureau of Indian Affairs Fort Apache Agency. He was also a Division Group Supervisor for Larry Humphrey's Type 1 Southwest Incident Management Team. Rick was instrumental in preventing the Rodeo-Chediski Fire from spreading to the communities of Show Low, Pinetop-Lakeside and McNary last year. His work with the Fort Apache Hotshots was credited with preventing the fire from crossing US 60 and saving the communities.

Owens Mortuary in Show Low, Arizona is handling the funeral arrangements. Contributions for the Lupe family may be made to the WMAT-Rick Lupe Donation Fund at any Wells Fargo Bank, account #3828332563. An additional account for the family is at the Arizona Federal Credit Union, account #468902.

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