



Ben Nighthorse Campbell was an American Indian, **Northern Cheyenne** and United States Air Force veteran. He was a Colorado politician who **served in both chambers of the United States Congress**; representing **Colorado's 3rd congressional district** in the **United States House of Representatives** from 1987 to 1993 and as a member of the **United States Senate** from 1993 to 2005. He served as one of the 44 members of the **Council of Chiefs of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Tribe**.

During his time in office, he was the only Native American serving in Congress. He was the second American Indian in history to be elected to the U.S. Senate. Charles Curtis was the first Tribal member to be elected to the U.S. Senate from Kansas in 1907-1913 and Vice President under Herbert Hoover from 1929=1933. And in 2022 Markwayne Mullin, Cherokee became the third American Indian to be elected to the Senate.

Although **Ben Nighthorse Campbell** was a **Northern Cheyenne** Tribal Member and served Colorado in the U.S. Congress he was born in Auburn, California. His mother, Mary Vierra (Vieira), was a Portuguese immigrant who had come at age six with her mother to the U.S. through Ellis Island. His maternal grandfather had entered the U.S. some time before.^[5] The Vierra family settled in the large Portuguese community near Sacramento.

When his mother Mary Vierra contracted tuberculosis in her youth, she was forced to convalesce at a nearby hospital, often for months at a time during treatment. It was there that she met an American Indian patient, Albert Campbell, who was at the hospital for alcoholism treatment. Albert Campbell was of predominantly Northern Cheyenne descent. The couple married in 1929.

During Campbell's childhood, his father continued to have problems with alcoholism, often leaving the family for weeks and months at a time. His mother continued to have problems with tuberculosis, a highly contagious disease that limited the contact she could have with her children and forced her into the hospital for long periods. These problems led Ben and his sister, Alberta (who died in an apparent suicide at age 44), to spend much of their early lives in nearby Catholic orphanages. As a young man, Campbell was introduced to the Japanese martial art of judo by Japanese immigrant families he met while working in local agricultural fields. The Japanese family and martial art of judo had a major impact of his life.

Campbell attended Placer High School, dropping out in 1951 to join the U.S. Air Force. He was stationed in Korea during the Korean War as an air policeman; he left the Air Force in 1953 with the rank of Airman Second Class, as well as the Korean Service Medal and the Air Medal. While in the Air Force, Campbell obtained his GED and, after his discharge, used the G.I. Bill to attend San Jose State

Ben Nighthorse Campbell

April 13, 1933 – December 30, 2025

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

University, graduating in 1957 with\ a Bachelor of Arts in physical education and fine arts.

He is listed as **Ben M. Campbell** in his college records and records of his Olympic competition, but was given the name "**Nighthorse**" when he returned to the Northern Cheyenne reservation for his name-giving ceremony, as a member of his father's family, Blackhorse.

In college, Campbell was a member of the San Jose State judo team, coached by future USA Olympic coach Yosh Uchida. **While training for the Olympic Games, Campbell attended Meiji University in Tokyo, Japan, as a special research student from 1960 to 1964.** The Meiji team was world-renowned and Campbell credited the preparation and discipline taught at Meiji for his 1961, 1962, and 1963 U.S. National titles and his gold medal in the 1963 Pan-American Games. In 1964, Campbell competed in judo at the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. This made him the first Native American on the U.S. Olympic judo team. He suffered an injury and did not win a medal. He broke his ankle and was out for two years.

In the years after returning from the Olympic Games, Campbell worked as a deputy sheriff in Sacramento County, California, coached the U.S. national judo team, operated his own dojo in Sacramento, and taught high school (physical education and art classes). He and his wife also raised quarter-horses, including a Supreme Champion and AQHA Champion, Sailors Night. They bought a ranch near Ignacio, Colorado, on the Southern Ute reservation in 1978.

Prior to his career in politics, Campbell was a jewelry maker with a booth at Indian Market in Santa Fe. In Herman Viola's book ***Ben Nighthorse Campbell: An American Warrior***, Campbell recounted learning to make jewelry from his father and flattening silver dollars on train tracks for the materials. He also used techniques learned from sword makers in Japan and other non-traditional techniques to win over 200 national and international awards for jewelry design under the name Ben Nighthorse, and in the late 1970s was included in a feature article in ***Arizona Highways*** magazine about Native artists experimenting in the "new look" of Indian jewelry. There are works by Campbell on display with the Art of the Olympians organization.

Campbell was elected to the Colorado State Legislature as a Democrat in November 1982, and served two terms. He was voted one of the 10 Best Legislators by his colleagues in a 1986 *Denver Post* – News Center 4 survey.

In 1986, Campbell was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, defeating incumbent Michael L. Strang; he was reelected twice to this seat. In 1989, he authored the bill HR 2668 to establish the National Museum of the American Indian, which became PL 101-185.

The early 1990s marked a turning point in Campbell's political career. In 1992, after U.S. Senate member Tim Wirth announced his retirement, Campbell won a three-way Democratic primary against former three-term Governor Richard Lamm and Boulder County Commissioner Josie Heath, who had been the party's nominee in 1990. He was the first Native American elected to the United States Senate since Charles Curtis in the 1920s.

In March 1995, after two years in office, Campbell switched parties from Democratic to Republican in the wake of publicized disputes he had with the Colorado Democratic Party. Campbell said the last straw was the Senate's defeat of the balanced-budget amendment, which he had championed since

coming to Washington as a congressman in 1987.^[8] Others attributed the switch to personal hostility within the Democratic Party in Colorado.

In 1998, Campbell was reelected to the Senate by what was then the largest margin in Colorado history for a statewide race. After winning reelection, Campbell identified as a moderate Republican, saying that his reelection "shows the moderate voices within the Republican Party are dominating".

On March 3, 2004, Campbell announced that he would not seek reelection due to health concerns, having recently been treated for prostate cancer and heartburn. He retired from office in January 2005, later saying of his decision: "Somewhere along the line, I said 'I'm not gonna die in this place. I want to do what I can, but I'm not dying here' He is the last Republican to be elected to the Class 3 Senate seat from Colorado.

After his retirement, Campbell was a senior policy advisor at the firm of Holland and Knight, LLP, in Washington, D.C. In 2012, he left that firm to found Ben Nighthorse Consultants, a new lobbying firm.^[3] ^[34] He also continued to design and craft his Ben Nighthorse line of American Indian jewelry.

In 2008, during the Cherokee freedmen controversy, Campbell authored a piece in ***The Hill*** criticizing the efforts of members of Congress attempting to terminate recognition of the Cherokee Nation's government, and condemning the lawmakers' "*paternalistic efforts*":

"In the past, interference with tribal affairs, often justified by a paternalistic 'we know best' mindset, has severely damaged the progress of tribes. Often, Congress not only didn't know best, but it based its decision on lies, mistaken assumptions and prejudice...Congress is again rushing to judgment when it thinks it knows better than the tribe and the courts."

In October 2020, Campbell appeared on ***Indian Country Today*** to speak on a variety of issues, including his party switch in 1995 and promoting free enterprise for Native Americans. He defended his switch to the Republican Party, and when asked whether its policies were better for Native peoples, he replied: *"The head of the Ku Klux Klan was not a Republican, it was a Democrat. It wasn't a Republican who put 350,000 Japanese Americans in prison without any legal authority to do it, that was a Democrat, Roosevelt. And Andrew Jackson drove the Trail of Tears, of the Cherokees, the Chickasaws, the Choctaws, and many other tribes, taking their land by force. That wasn't a Republican that did that. That was a Democrat... so when people say the Democrat Party has been more willing to help Native Americans, I dispute that. That's not true."* He went on to say how optimistic he was that more Native people were becoming involved and running for office, expressed support for Trump and his immigration policies, and voiced his concern with the **rise of antifa**.

In 1966, Campbell married the former Linda Price, a public school teacher who was a native of Colorado. They had two children and four grandchildren. Campbell was a Catholic.

Linda Campbell was the sponsor of ***USS Mesa Verde*** (LPD 19), which was commissioned in 2007.

Lake Nighthorse in La Plata County, Colorado, is named in Campbell's honor.^[46]

Campbell died at his Colorado ranch on December 30, 2025, at the age of 92.

God bless and go in peace my friend.

Ernie C. Salgado, Jr.



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“Making A Difference”

Number One American Indian Website In The World!

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Non-Profit 501(c)(3) * Tribal Organization

The Psychology of Turkeys

This page is dedicated to the insane actions, decisions and policies made by our would be leaders.
MY VIEW by *Ernie C. Salgado Jr.*

Billionaires are fleeing California — Mayor Mamdani beware!

Opinion by *Post Editorial Board*



Billionaires fleeing California before crippling tax hikes hit should be a stark warning to New York leaders who want to put the squeeze on the wealthy to fund lavish lefty policies.

The Post reported Monday that Google co-founder Larry Page and venture capitalist Peter

Thiel are among the one-percenters hatching escape plans from the Golden State to avoid getting slammed by a one-time tax that would force them to pony up 5% of their total wealth. The proposed tax isn't a sure thing; proponents need to collect nearly 900,000 signatures to get the measure on the ballot come November.

But just the *threat* of it is enough to make big earners eye low-tax states like Florida and Texas — places that *encourage* entrepreneurs to boost their wealth instead of punishing their success.

And they're right to worry; in progressive havens like California, milking the rich has become a very popular fix for all money woes.

Of course, that system falls apart when you have no billionaires left to tax because they've all hit the road for greener, less grabby, pastures.

[Read More @ NY Post](#)



House Passes Bill to Ban Gender Transition Treatments for Minors House Passes It 216 - 211 — They Will Be Arrested



Washington officials blast conservatives for Minnesota-style day care fraud claims in new state

*Story by Charles Creitz * [Read More @ FOX News](#)

FOX News MY VIEW: California, Washington, Oregon, Arizona & Colorado Need a Look At!

Stephen Miller: We shouldn't be shocked by Minnesota fraud case considering Somalia's primary occupation is 'pirate'



Taxpayers fund festival that won't let white people run it

Story by Craig Simpson * [Read More @ The Telegraph](#)

Taxpayers are funding a music festival that bans white people from its leadership, The Telegraph can reveal.

The annual “Decolonise Fest” music event for “**punx of colour**” aims to undo the harms of colonialism and “**dismantle white supremacy**” in the punk music scene.

Grant funding from the **Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)** has propped up Decolonise Fest, which informs prospective supporters that “**white people cannot join the organising group**” that leads it.

Leaders are instead drawn from members who can boast one or two parents descended from the “**original inhabitants**” of continents outside Europe, or from Roma and Traveller groups.

Arts Council cash has supported the London festival, whose “militant” leadership has pledged to “**put the threat back into punk**” - while also banning any rhetoric that could stray into “**fatphobia**”.

The festival has in the past hosted acts including **Bob Vylan**, whose lead singer led chants of “**death to the IDF**” during a Glastonbury set, a show that was supported by Decolonise Fest with the social media message: “**Free Palestine and up the Vylan.**”

MY VIEW: *How is this not “Racist?” This is like something from the Twilight Zone, as Imagine if you will - the NAACP funding the KKK! Or white folks as Black Muslims?*



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Our Native Connection * Group by Charlene Valenzuela

Alcatraz: The Awakening
November 20, 1969-June 11, 1971



Alcatraz 1971 Photo above L to R: Richard Oakes, unknown, Denis Turner (white sweater) Rincon Rez and U.S. Government Official.

HOSTED AT SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
ON KUMEYAAY HOMELANDS

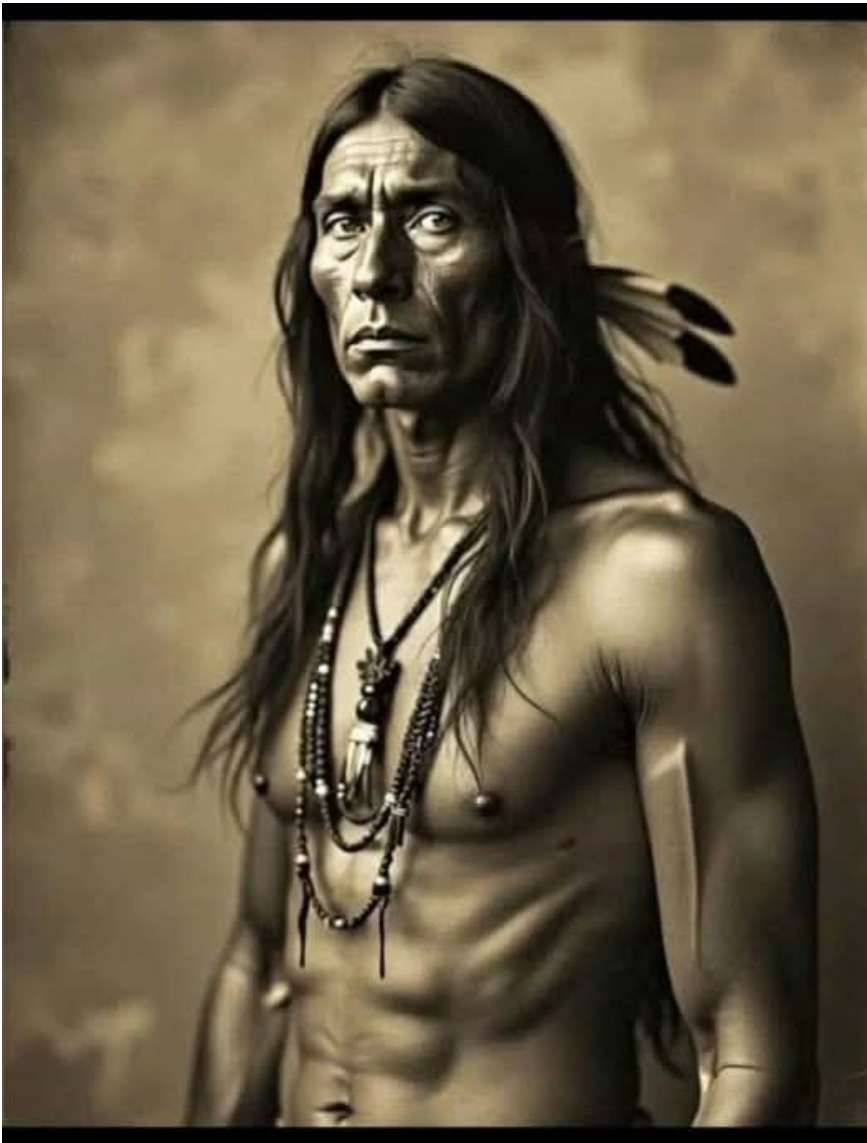
CALIFORNIA INDIAN STUDIES AND
SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION 3RD ANNUAL
CONFERENCE & GATHERING

INTELLECTUAL GENEALOGIES AND
RADICAL RELATIONS

FEBRUARY 13TH
SCRIPPS COTTAGE, SDSU 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
LUNCH AND DINNER PROVIDED

FEBRUARY 14TH
STUDENT SERVICES EAST, ROOM 1401
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
LUNCH PROVIDED

PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT WITH DR. BAYLEY MARQUEZ
FEBRUARY 12TH
SCRIPPS COTTAGE, SDSU
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM



When Crazy Horse was stabbed at Fort Robinson in 1877, his cousin Touch the Cloud was by his side. Refusing to let the great Lakota warrior die abandoned on the ground, he and a few others carried him to the adjutant’s office—so that his last breath would come among his own people, not his captors.

But what followed remains one of the quietest yet most powerful acts of Lakota resistance. That same night, under the watchful eyes of the soldiers, Touch the Cloud lifted Crazy Horse’s body, carefully wrapped in a buffalo robe. The elders had prepared a decoy—the body of a deer, disguised to resemble the fallen chief—left behind to deceive the guards.

The soldiers believed they still held the warrior. In truth, Crazy Horse had already been taken home, carried into the arms of his people. His death became not merely an ending, but a final act of defiance.

Through this deception, the Lakota gained one last victory: the right to mourn Crazy Horse in their own way, away from the eyes of an army that sought to silence him. And through story and song, the memory of that sacred night lives on—the warrior who could not be caged, not even in death.



The Native Tribe America Couldn’t Erase,
No Matter How Hard They Tried

Story by Jane O’Shea * [Read More @ Tribal Nation](#)

Three Recognized Tribes Today * ©Mersede Mirshamsi, Shutterstock

Today, there are three federally recognized Cherokee bands in the United States: Cherokee Nation, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians.

Cherokee Nation being the largest of the three.



The Forgotten Fort Where Chiricahua Apache
Made Their Last Stand in Arizona

Story by John Ghost * [Read More @ State USA](#)

Fort Bowie, Arizona

©Shutterstock

Fort Bowie is rarely on Arizona highlights list. It doesn’t have the pueblos of Chaco Canyon or the cliff dwellings of Walnut Canyon.

Fort Bowie - a ramshackle outpost standing defiantly in Apache Pass - became ground zero for one of the most intense showdowns between the U.S. Army and Native warriors who refused to fade quietly into history.

This is where the American Southwest was forged in blood. Here’s the story.

The Bascom Blunder That Started A War

It all kicked off with a misunderstanding.

In January 1861, Tonto Apaches hit John Ward’s ranch, swiping his cattle and taking his 12-year-old stepson. Ward wrongly blamed Cochise and the Chiricahua Apache.

I'm so glad us Natives don't
have to hunt for food
anymore. Because I have no
idea where bologna lives..



Our Native Connection * Group by Charlene Valenzuela

Treaty of Santa Ysabel January 7, 1852

(The Treaty of Santa Ysabel along with others were never ratified by the United State Congress)

By Eddie Rico, San Deigo. Posted at **Our Native Connection**, by Charlene Valenzuela. * Edited by E.C. Salgado, AIR see italics

1852, on the heels of the Garra revolt, US Indian Agent Wozencraft signed treaties with local native leaders because American immigrants were starting to pour into California. The Treaty of the Diegueños or Treaty of Santa Ysabel and The Treaty of San Louis Rey or Treaty of the Temecula Village were signed on January 5th and 7th respectively. I recognize Panto (Pantho) of San Pascual and Juan Antonio who helped capture Garra *by double-crossing him after gaining access to him under the pretense of joining him in his resistance to the American Government rule over the Tribes. Garra and his two sons were executed by the U.S. Government. These treaties were denied by the US senate.* In 1875, President Grant gave an executive order to create reservations which led to the modern reservations. They were created mainly in the 1880s & 90s.

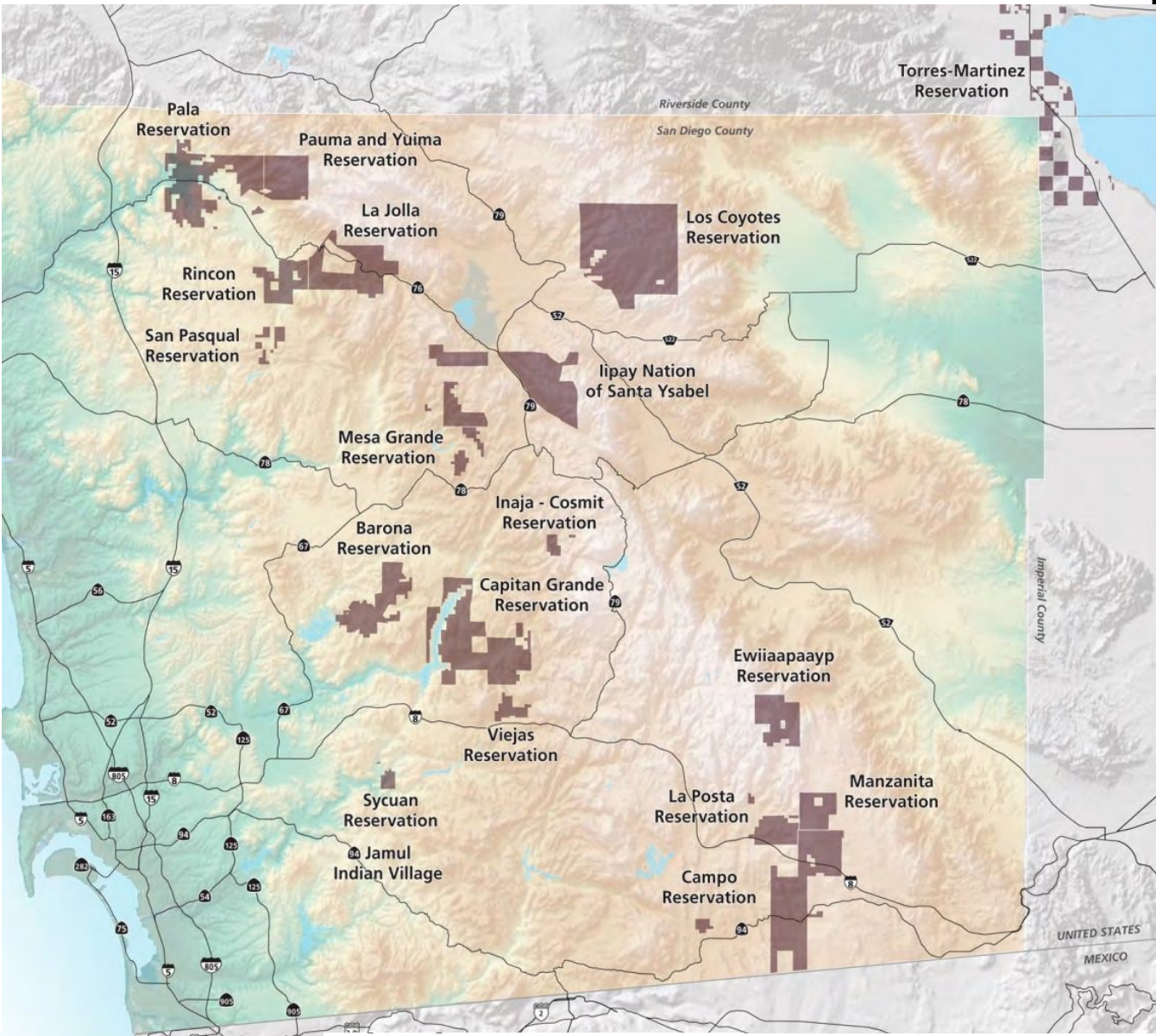
For and in behalf of the Dieguino Indians:

SANTIAGO, of Ha-coom, his x mark. [SEAL.]
KWA-PI, of Ta-cah-tay, his x mark. [SEAL.]
SOLDADO, of Matirom, his x mark. [SEAL.]
NE-CAH, by COO-LIM, of Wah-ti, his x mark. [SEAL.]
SURDO, of Sa-quan, his x mark. [SEAL.]
AT-CHU-CAL, of Ha-soo-malc, his x mark [SEAL.]
TAH-CA-PAN, of Coquilt, his x mark. [SEAL.]
LEANDRO, of San Diego mission, his x mark. [SEAL.]
TADEO, of San Dieguito, his x mark. [SEAL.]
LAZARO, of Santa Ysabel, his x mark. [SEAL.]
TOMAS, of Santa Ysabel, his x mark. [SEAL.]
AS SO TORE, of How-wee
PANTHO, of San Pascual, his x mark. [SEAL.]

JOSE APAN, of To-co-mac, his x mark. [SEAL.]
JUAN PABLO, of Ca-ma-jal, his x mark. [SEAL.]
MATEO (Co-nu-po-ip) of Tah-wee, his x mark [SEAL.]
LOENZO, (Cho-lo-pe) of Prickaway, his x mark [SEAL.]
TAMOUROO, of Too-weal, his x mark. [SEAL.]
HEPERERA, of Mel-co-to-nac, San Felipe, his x mark [SEAL.]
ELOO, of Mat-mak, La Puerta, his x mark. [SEAL.]
OON-AH-OON, of Lu-ah-pi, his x mark. [SEAL.]
FELIPE (Am-coo-si) of Matajuai, his x mark. [SEAL.]

Signed, sealed and delivered, after being fully explained, in presence of

Delavin Davidson, *Captain 2d infantry.*
E. Murray, *Lieutenant 2d infantry.*
J. J. Warner.



For and in behalf of the San Louis Rey Indians:

PEDRO, (Ka-wa-wish) of the Mission, his x mark. [SEAL.]
CISTO, (Go-no-nish) of Las Flores, his x mark. [SEAL.]
BICENTE, (Poo-clow) of Buena Vista, his x mark. [SEAL.]
PABLINO, (Coo-hac-ish) of Pala, his x mark. [SEAL.]
FRANCISCO, (Pah-hoo-vole) of Pauna, his x mark. [SEAL.]
JOSE, (Cah-lac) of El Potrero, his x mark. [SEAL.]
CALISTRO, (Chah-cwal-ish) of Yah-peet-cha, his x mark. [SEAL.]
SANTIAGO, (Yu-loke) of La Joya, his x mark. [SEAL.]
PEDRO, (Pal-e-gish) of La Puerta, his x mark. [SEAL.]
BRUNO, (Cwah-si-cat) of Puerta Cruz, his x mark. [SEAL.]
YSIDRO, (To-sho-vwul) of Tovin, his x mark. [SEAL.]
CERVANTES, (Ca-hal) of Ahuanga, his x mark. [SEAL.]
LAURIANO, (Cah-par-ah-pish) of Temecula, his x mark.

JOSE NOCA, (Chan-gah-lang-ish) of Agua Caliente, his x mark. [SEAL.]
JOSE YGNACIO, (Tesh-mah-ken-ma-wish) of San Ysidro, his x mark. [SEAL.]

For and in behalf of the Kah-wé-as nation of Indians:

JUAN ANTONIO, (Coos-woot-na) chief, his x mark. [SEAL.]
LEONARDO, (Parlewit) of the people of Razon, his x mark. [SEAL.]

For and on behalf of the people of Too-va:

FRANCISCO JAVIEL, (— —) of Tierra Seca, his x m ark. [SEAL.]
JOSE, (Coos-pa-om-nu-it) of Pah-nuc-say, the country of Cabezon, his x mark. [SEAL.]
JUAN, (Kah-we-a) of Pal-se-wish, his x mark. [SEAL.]
GINIO, (— —) of Wah-ne-pe-ah-pa, his x mark. [SEAL.]
YLARIO, (Sahtoo) of Wah-kigh-na, his x mark. [SEAL.]

TEODORO, (Chu-gal) alcalde of Juan Antonio and of Cah-be-nish, or Palma Seca, his x mark. [SEAL.]
YGNACIO, (Chin-gal) of the people of Toro of Pal-kay-witch-ish, or Agua Corta, his x mark. [SEAL.]
JUAN BAUTISTA, (Sah-at) of Pow-ky, his x mark. [SEAL.]
GERONIMO, (— —) of Co-ro-vang-ang, his x mark. [SEAL.]
VICTORIANO, (Kwe-vish) of Sow-wah-wah, his x mark. [SEAL.]

For and in behalf of the people or tribe of Cocom-cah-ras, alias Serranos:

EHETERIO, (— —) of Maronga, his x mark. [SEAL.]

Signed, sealed and delivered, after being fully explained, in the presence of—

J. J. Warner,
G. Williams,
L. D. Vinsonhaler,
R. Sackett,
J. Hamilton, *Secretary.*

Monkey Business & More

Statistics say: This is the best age to claim Social Security

Story by Stefon Walters * [Read More @ Motley Fool](#)

Key Points

- Claiming benefits before or after your full retirement age reduces or increases them, respectively.
- Studies show most Americans are better off delaying benefits until as late as possible.
- Your claiming decision should always keep your personal situation in mind, regardless of studies.
- The \$23,760 Social Security bonus most retirees completely overlook.

Leading up to retirement, there are plenty of important decisions you need to make, including when you claim Social Security. This isn't a decision that should be taken lightly, either, because it will permanently affect how much you receive in benefits. And considering how valuable Social Security is to millions of Americans' retirement income, you don't want to find yourself leaving money on the table.

Your full retirement age is when you're eligible to receive your base monthly benefit, called your primary insurance amount (PIA), but you can claim before then (beginning at age 62) or delay claiming past that age.

There are pros and cons to claiming at your full retirement age, early, and late. So, what exactly is the best time to claim? Let's see what the statistics say.

No more full Social Security COLA for millions of US seniors? New proposal reveals possible key to stabilize program. But here's who gets hurt



"There is no problem too big for government to solve and no matter too small for government to care about."

"The nine most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government, and I'm here to help."

This bill was signed into law by Governor Tim Walz, a member of the DFL party, on July 23, 2020, following a special legislative session.

Minnesota Statutes § 609.066

If a driver accelerates toward an officer standing in front of the vehicle, this creates an immediate, life-threatening danger. The officer doesn't need to wait until impact; they can act based on the apparent intent and proximity.

DONT BE DISTRACTED

THEY STOLE \$19 BILLION

PHOTO RIGHT - After months of asking politely for Adam Schiff's financial records, the Department of Justice has obtained a warrant to seize them.

"The DOJ has a right to investigate the January 6 Committee to see if it was influenced by financial gain," said 4th Circuit Magistrate Joe Barron, *"Mr. Schiff has thirty days to comply."*

The State Department has also moved to suspend his passport, in case he decides it would be better to flee than face the music.

Obama used 542 drone strikes, killing 3,797. 324 were civilians and 4 Americans. Yet today Trump is the bad guy killing Venezuelan cartel members smuggling drugs. TDS is real!



Ashli Babbitt was unarmed on Jan.6th when she was shot and killed. The left called it justified.

Now Renee Good tries to run over an ICE agent with her car and is killed. The left calls it murder this time.

Who Opposes the Capture of a Venezuelan Drug-Trafficking Dictator?

- Cuban leader Miguel Diaz-Canel (communist dictator)
 - China's government
 - The Russian government
 - And, of course, Democrats in the United States
- Strange bedfellows. Very predictable morals.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio with the truth bomb on Maduro 🇺🇸🇻🇪

Secretary Marc... @SecRubio

Maduro is NOT the President of Venezuela and his regime is NOT the legitimate government. Maduro is the head of the Cartel de Los Soles, a narco-terror organization which has taken possession of a country. And he is under indictment for pushing drugs into the United States.

I never want to hear democrats are for the poor people again. You literally allowed immigrants to steal billions from taxpayers that could've saved our people struggling while covering it up with lies, bullying and now violence against Ice agents.



In the year 2025

THIS IS WHAT THE REPUBLICANS DID!

- Republicans passed the **Big Beautiful Tax Cut** and now... **Everyone** will pay **LESS TAXES** in when they file the 2025 Tax Return!
- No tax on tips up to \$25,000/yr until 12/2028
- No tax on overtime up to 250 hours/yr until 12/2028
- Seniors over 65 get an additional \$6,000 Deduction/yr until 12/2028
- Car buyers can deduct interest on American made Auto loans until 12/2028
- The Child Tax Credit increases to \$2,200 and will adjust with inflation!
- Child Tax Credit SSN Requirement to stop illegals from claiming
- Standard Deduction increased to \$15,750 for single filers!
- Standard Deduction increased to \$31,500 for married couples!
- Standard Deduction increases are adjusted each year for inflation!

THIS IS WHAT THE DEMOCRATS DID:

- Shut the Government Down for 2 Months!

Congressional Medal of Honor

ROY PEREZ BENAVIDEZ

(1935-1998)

Roy Perez Benavidez was born in Cuero, Texas, on August 5, 1935. He was the son of a sharecropper and endured much racism in his life because of his mixed Yaqui Indian and Mexican heritage. Benavidez was orphaned as a child and raised by an uncle. He dropped out of school in the seventh grade. For a period of time in his teens, Benavidez worked as a migrant farm worker and traveled as far as Colorado to harvest sugar beets. Benavidez joined the Army in Houston, Texas, in 1955.

Benavidez was first stationed at Fort Ord, California. He was then transferred to Germany, where he received parachute training. While in Germany, the letters he exchanged with childhood sweetheart Hilaria "Lala" Coy increased in intensity. When Benavidez returned to the U.S., he immediately sent his uncle, grandfather, and the local priest to ask Lala's father for his blessing.

Lala and Roy Benavidez were married on June 7, 1959, in El Campo, Texas. Benavidez was then assigned to Military Police training at Fort Gordon, Georgia. Throughout his training, Benavidez periodically got into trouble because of his stubbornness and hot temper. However, Benavidez later credited these qualities for his success in Special Forces training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

By the time Benavidez was ordered to Vietnam, he had risen to the rank of Staff Sergeant with the Fifth Special Forces Group, Airborne, Detachment B-56, First Special Forces.

On the morning of May 2, 1968, a 12-man Special Forces team was inserted in Cambodia to observe large scale North Vietnamese troop movements and was discovered by the enemy. Most of the team members were close friends of Benavidez, who was at the Forward Operating Base in Loc Ninh, Vietnam.

Three helicopters were sent to rescue the team, but were unable to land due to heavy enemy fire. When a second attempt was made to reach the stranded team, Benavidez jumped aboard one of the helicopters, armed only with a Bowie knife. As the helicopters reached the landing zone, Benavidez realized that the team members were likely too severely wounded to move to the helicopters.

Benavidez ran through heavy small arms fire to the wounded soldiers, and was wounded himself in the

right leg, face, and head in the process. He reorganized the team and signaled the helicopters to prepare for extraction. Despite his injuries, Benavidez carried or dragged half of the wounded men to the helicopters. He then collected the classified documents held by the now dead team leader. As he completed this task he was wounded by an exploding grenade in the back and shot in the stomach. At that moment, the waiting helicopter's pilot was mortally wounded and the helicopter crashed.

Benavidez rushed to collect the stunned crash survivors to form a defensive perimeter. He directed air support, ordered another extraction attempt, and was wounded again when shot in the thigh. At this point, Benavidez was losing so much blood from his face wounds that his vision became blocked.

Another helicopter landed, and as Benavidez carried a wounded friend to it he was clubbed in the head with a rifle butt by an enemy soldier. The enemy soldier attempted to bayonet Benavidez while he was on the ground, but Benavidez grabbed the bayonet and pulled it toward him. This took the enemy soldier by surprise and enabled Benavidez to kill him, but also slashed Benavidez's right hand and embedded the bayonet in his left arm.

Benavidez was loaded onto the helicopter and taken back to base. There, the triage doctor declared him dead, but he spit a mouth full of blood at the doctor's face as he zipped the body bag, and was taken into the hospital. He spent almost a year in hospitals recovering from his injuries.

Benavidez's commanding officers felt that he deserved the Congressional Medal of Honor, but recommended him for a Distinguished Service Cross because they thought Benavidez would die before the lengthy application process for the Medal of Honor would award him his medal.

He was presented with the Distinguished Service Cross for saving the lives of eight soldiers at extreme risk to his own safety by General William C. Westmoreland at the Fort Sam Houston Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. Years later, one of Benavidez's former commanders found out that he had survived his injuries and began the process to award him the Congressional Medal of Honor.

However, the eyewitnesses and paperwork necessary to upgrade the Distinguished Service Cross to a Med-



al of Honor were difficult to locate in the massive bureaucracy of the Army.

Benavidez himself became very active in upgrading his award and enlisted the help of Texas congressmen J.J. Pickle and O.C. Fisher as well as several dedicated veterans to locate helicopter pilots and door gunners who may have witnessed the extraction.

Benavidez was finally awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Ronald Reagan on February 24, 1981, in the courtyard of the Pentagon. Benavidez had reached the rank of Master Sergeant by the time of his retirement from the Army.

He settled down in El Campo to raise his three children; Noel, Yvette, and Denise. In 1983 he went to Washington D.C. again to protest the cut off of disability payments to him by the Social Security Administration. Benavidez often spoke at military bases, schools, and even runaway shelters on the importance of education.

He died on November 29, 1998, and was buried at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio; his funeral was attended by roughly 1,500 people. An elementary school in Houston and a boot camp for problem youths in Uvalde are both named in his honor. In 1999, the Army built the Master Sergeant Roy P. Benavidez Special Operations Logistics Complex at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

In 2003, the USNS Benavidez, a supply ship, was christened as part of the Navy's Military Sealift Command. In 2001, the Hasbro toy company released the Roy P. Benavidez G.I. Joe heritage.

MONTANA IS THE ONLY U.S. STATE CONSTITUTIONALLY MANDATED TO TEACH AND PRESERVE NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE. THIS IS TO ENSURE ALL STUDENTS ACKNOWLEDGE AND RESPECT THE HERITAGE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE.



The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it.



POWWOWS.COM

Learning shapes how future generations understand respect. Teaching Native history is not about the past—it is about honesty. When children are shown truth early, they grow with empathy instead of ignorance. Knowledge carried forward becomes responsibility.

Jay Silverheels, born Harold J. Smith in 1912 on the Six Nations Reserve in Ontario, Canada, was a groundbreaking Indigenous actor best known for portraying Tonto, the loyal companion of the Lone Ranger. A member of the Mohawk Nation, Silverheels was also a talented athlete, excelling in lacrosse and boxing before venturing into Hollywood. His strong and dignified screen presence helped him land his breakout role in The Lone Ranger television series (1949-1957), a part that made him one of the most recognized Native American actors of his time. His portrayal, while sometimes criticized for its stereotypical depiction, opened doors for Indigenous representation in mainstream media.

Despite the fame, Silverheels was acutely aware of the limited and often problematic roles available to Native American actors in Hollywood. He became a vocal advocate for Native American

representation, going so far as to co-found the Indian Actors Workshop in Los Angeles in 1968, which aimed to train and support Native performers. Silverheels used his platform not only to act but to inspire cultural pride and push for better opportunities for his people in the entertainment industry. His advocacy work marked him as more than just an actor—he became a pioneer for civil rights and authentic storytelling.

Jay Silverheels passed away in 1980, but his legacy lives on as a trailblazer who defied the limitations placed upon Indigenous actors. The role of Tonto, controversial yet iconic, cemented his place in pop culture, but his enduring impact comes from his determination to elevate Native voices and stories. His life's work helped set the stage for later generations of Indigenous actors like Wes Studi and Graham Greene to be taken seriously in Hollywood





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Cheyenne Warbonnet Returned

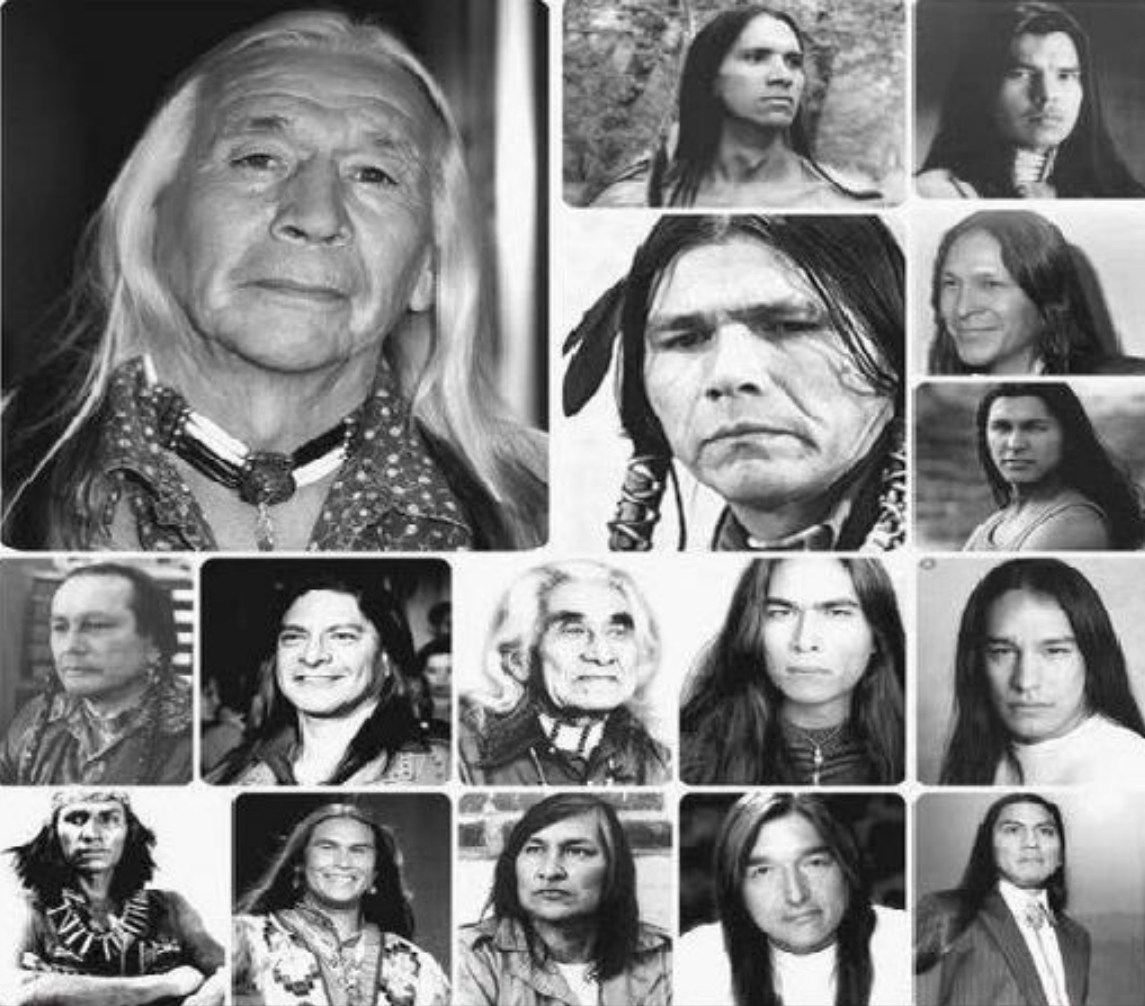


Deborah Turner, daughter of Carl Roberts, returned a Cheyenne Warbonnet of the Northern Plains to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. The bonnet, over a century old, was originally in possession of Roberts who had it for over 40 years. Roberts told his daughter to return it back to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

Gordon Yellowman, director of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Culture Program retrieved the warbonnet. Yellowman said an official receiving ceremony will be held in the future and the program will plan to put the bonnet on display at a location for people to see it.



I saw this, it's about language classes, and it made me so sad. History, time and genocide has caused havoc in our communities and to omit people, keep them from language creator gave them because they don't have white papers is a sin. The colonizers kept us from ours and now we do it to each other. By **L Frank Manriquez** * I also agree, Ernie C. Salgado



NO FILM DIRECTED BY AN INDIGENOUS NORTH AMERICAN PERSON HAS EVER BEEN NOMINATED FOR AN OSCAR UNTIL NOW



America's remaining major Native American reservations

Story by Marlon Wright * [Read More @ Splash Travels](#)

Communities That Shape Identities

Across the United States, vast reservation lands hold stories rarely told in full. These places reflect sovereignty, survival, and ongoing influence in law and culture. Understanding their scale and significance explains how Native nations continue to impact modern America.

Navajo Nation

©Ben FrantzDale, Wikimedia Commons

As one of the largest Native American reservations in the US, this reservation covers parts of Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. Its vast territory includes deserts and mountain regions that have supported Dine communities for generations. The Nation operates its own government and judicial system.

It reflects a high degree of self-governance with more than 300,000 enrolled members. It's also one of the most populous Native nations. Beyond size, the Navajo Nation plays a significant role in energy development and cultural education.

Uintah And Ouray Reservation

©NPS, Wikimedia Commons

In eastern Utah, the Uintah and Ouray Reservation houses the Ute Indian Tribe. Established through 19th-century treaties, it contains significant energy resources, which play a big role in the region's economy while maintaining tribal governance.

Fort Apache Reservation

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Set within eastern Arizona's White Mountains, the Fort Apache Reservation belongs to the White Mountain Apache Tribe. Once associated with US military operations, it now supports forestry, tourism, healthcare, and education. The tribe continues to prioritize land stewardship and cultural traditions.

Blackfeet Reservation

©USDA NRCS Montana, Wikimedia Commons

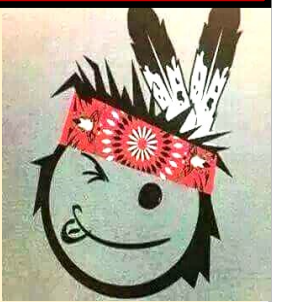
Featured in Bring Them Home, the Blackfeet Reservation is located in northern Montana along the eastern boundary of Glacier National Park. It's the ancestral homeland of the Blackfeet Nation. The landscape holds deep cultural and spiritual meaning, shaped by centuries of connection to the plains and nearby mountains.

[Read More @ Splash Travels](#)

AS THE
REZ
TURNS

Funny Bone & More

Laughter is the Best Medicine



**POLITICALLY
INCORRECT
AND PROUD OF IT!**

Will Rogers, (November 4, 1879 – August 15, 1935)
“America is just like an insane asylum. There is not a soul in it will admit they are crazy.” Rogers was an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation. Shayne’s Journal # 4677 May 13, 2020 2020

Venezuela has \$17.3 TRILLION in oil reserves. If we sell it for 1/4 it’s value, we get \$4.3 TRILLION!

That’s enough money to open FOUR NEW Somali Daycares in Tim Walz’s Minnesota! 😂😂😂



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10,185	EXECUTIONS
17,400	POLITICAL ARRESTS
3,500	DISAPPEARED
1,650	TORTURED
2,000	POLITICAL PRISONERS
332,617	VIOLENT DEATHS

THIS IS WHAT MAMDANI AND THE LEFT DEFEND IN THE NAME OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

NEWSOM'S HISTORIC WIN: CLOSE TO SEVEN HOMES REBUILT IN YEAR SINCE PALISADES FIRES

WOULD YOU SUPPORT CONGRESS PASSING **NATIONWIDE VOTER ID LAWS** BEFORE THE MIDTERMS?

Lev radin - pryzmat / Shutterstock

"Come and get me, I'll be right here"

**NATIONAL
BASEBALL
HALL OF FAME**

Pete Rose

SEE, WE DIDN'T "INVADE" VENEZUELA, WE WERE INVITED

BREAKING: Tim Walz has been referred to the Department of Justice for possible criminal charges over alleged complicity in the Somali fraud case.



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