

Dee Niette Thompson receives Native American Tribe's highest honor

November 19, 2024 2:06 pm - The Adai Caddo Indian Nation's highest honor is the Chief Rufus Davis, Jr. award. Named for the past chief, the award is presented once a year to a member for selfless service to the tribe. The 2024 recipient is Dee Niette Thompson.

The Adai Caddo Indian Nation recognized Dee Niette Thompson with the Chief Rufus Davis, Jr. Award at their 26th Annual Powwow in Natchitoches Parish. The award is the tribe's highest honor.

Dee received the award for her many years of outstanding service to the tribe as an archivist, historian, membership director, genealogist, and tribal councilwoman. She is lovingly known by many in the tribe as "Momma Dee".

"Momma Dee has been my biggest supporter as chief of this great nation," said Chief John Mark Davis. "She started as my biggest confidant and advisor when I was appointed vice chief by my father, when he was chief and tribal historian. My father and Dee worked closely together on the research of our history. Dee is the biggest advocate for this tribe and her family! I am so proud to award our tribes highest honor to Dee with the unanimous approval of the council!"



Dee is a historian and genealogist currently serving on the Tribal Council. She retired from Avaya Communications and previously served as President of the Southern Hills Homeowners Association. Dee is active in her community. Her volunteer service includes the Baldwin County Humane Society, Northwest Family Justice Center, St. Mary of the Pines, and Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Dee is a certified genealogist and studied Computer Science at Louisiana State University and Louisiana Tech.

"The award is named in honor of our beloved Chief Rufus," said Tribal Councilman Robert Brevette. "The award recognizes a member's selfless service to the tribe whose actions have gone above and beyond, greatly benefited or protected the tribe, and honors the sacrifices, service and memory of Chief Rufus. Like Chief Rufus, Dee's service will have a profound impact on the tribe for generations to come."

Recipients of the annual award are memorialized on a large bronze plaque at the Adai Caddo Cultural Center. The tribe presented Dee with a personalized walnut plaque and a tomahawk that also functions as a peace pipe.

Learn more about the Adai Caddo Indian Nation by attending the annual powwow on the third Saturday of October at the Adai Caddo Cultural Center and Ceremonial Grounds, 4460 LA-485, Robeline, LA 71469.

For this PR, please contact

John Avery
4460 LA-485
Robeline LA 71469
409-365-6711
john.avery@adaination.com

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