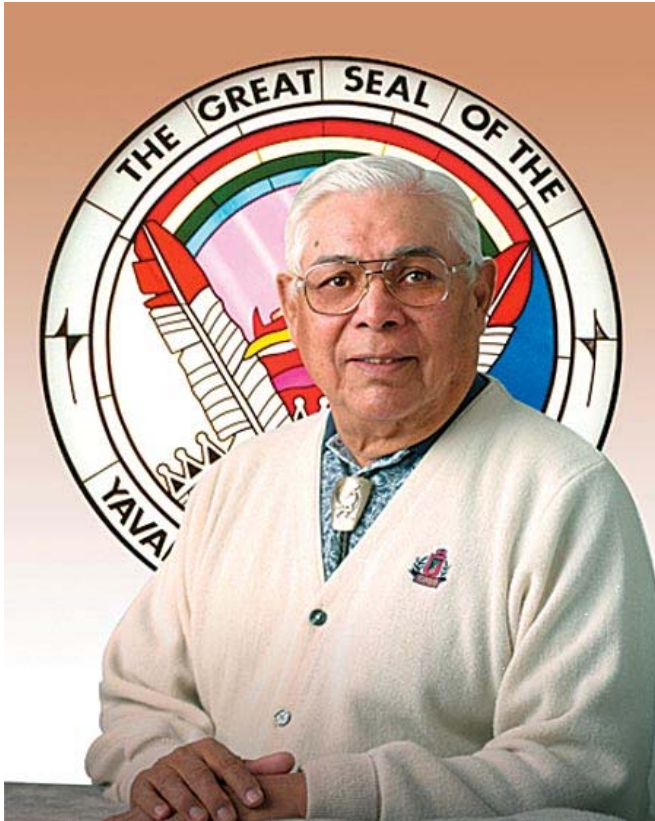




verdenews.com

Nation announces retirement of Ted Smith Sr.

Thursday, May 29, 2008



Ted Smith Sr.

The Yavapai-Apache Nation is proud to announce the retirement of Theodore Smith Sr.

Smith, 85-years-old, is a member of the Yavapai-Apache Nation and recently served as the director of [Economic Development](#), where he had direct oversight of the Nation's small business administration, wastewater treatment operations and all economic development initiatives.

As a child, Smith attended Clemenceau Public School and later attended the Truxton Canyon Indian School, Phoenix Indian School and finally the Bacone High School and College in Oklahoma. After graduating from high school, Smith attended [Arizona State University](#) and later attended the Eastern American University, where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration.

In 1939 while attending Bacone School, Smith enlisted in the U.S. National Guard. Smith said, "I was only 17 when I signed up for the Guard. You had to be 18, but I lied so that I could get in. I came from a poor family and my mom and dad couldn't afford to send me money because they had other children to take care of. When I joined, the guard paid me money and I was able to buy the things I needed like clothes."

In 1940, Smith was inducted into the U.S. Army, where he served in Company I, 180th Infantry, 45th Division. While serving in the armed forces, Smith and his company were sent to Europe to fight in World War II.

Smith said, "When I joined the army I had no idea that there was going to be a war." He added, "During my time in the war, we did a lot of hard fighting, we lost a lot of men and we killed a lot of Germans in Italy. I even served on the front line in Sicily with the famous Gen. George Patton."

After completing five years of service, Smith was honorably discharged and returned home. For his bravery and service to his country Smith was presented with many medals and honors, including the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Medal of Good Conduct, American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal and the Honorable Service WWII Button.

After returning home, Smith worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and, eventually, began work for the Yavapai-Apache Nation in the 1970s. Throughout his years of service to the Nation, Smith has served multiple terms on the Tribal Council and is a past chairman.

Related Links