

PROCLAMATION

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma National Day of Remembrance

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma said “Chi Pisa La Chike” to many tribal members in 2020. This was a year made painful by these losses. Each person, in their own way, contributed to our cultural heritage, our traditions and our story.

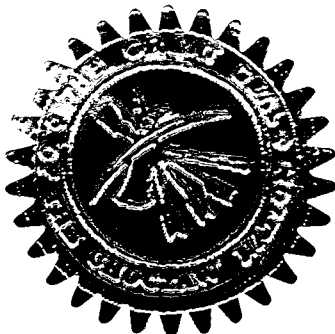
WHEREAS, some were lost to a pandemic. Some were taken by accidents or natural causes. No matter the cause, each was precious to the Choctaw Nation and to our Creator.

WHEREAS, we are reminded of just how fragile life truly is. We are reminded to take care of one another and ourselves.

WHEREAS, in our sorrow, we are comforted by our memories of each of them. We remember their contributions to preserving our language, our stories, our dances, our art, our music and the Chahta spirit.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary Batton, Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the Choctaw Nation, do hereby proclaim February 18, 2021, as a National Day of Remembrance across the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma in honor and tribute of those lost in 2020. I call on the Choctaw people to solemnly commemorate and pay respect to all those lost.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand to this instrument on this 10th day of February in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty-one at the Choctaw Nation Headquarters in Durant.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gary Batton", written over a horizontal line.

Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma