

# GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR & LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

“GILA RIVER STRONG”

STEPHEN ROE LEWIS  
GOVERNOR



MONICA LYNN ANTONE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RECOGNITION ON THE PASSING OF COMMUNITY WATER RIGHTS ELDER STATESMAN, CARL EUGENE FRANZOY

February 10, 2021

It is with deep sadness that I acknowledge the recent passing of one of the Community's elder statesman on water rights, Carl Eugene "Gene" Franzoy. A pillar of the Community's water rights team from the very early days, Gene's service in defense and furtherance of our water rights spanned over four decades, and continued to the very day of his passing at the age of 80.

Gene began his work with the Community as an agricultural engineer helping our water rights team, led then by my father, the late Rodney Blaine Lewis, to pull together the Master Plan for Water Use that served as the foundation for our ultimate settlement of our water rights claims in 2004. From those days till last week, Gene continuously served as a key member of our water rights team, assisting us on all aspects of our water programs, including the development of our innovative water storage system at MAR-5 and advising us on the impacts of the Drought Contingency Plan on our water supplies.

A man of strong values and tremendous judgment, who always answered our call to action whatever the issue or project, we will miss him and wish his family comfort from the fond appreciation we have for his dedicated service to the Community.

Stephen Roe Lewis, Governor  
Gila River Indian Community

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