Leon Secatero

Leon Secatero, headman of the Cañoncito Band of Navajo, Tóhajiilee, died Sept. 28, 2008.

Secatero touched many people in his travels throughout his lifetime worldwide. His life began humbly on the land as a sheepherder taking a direction in his adult life that has impacted the world.

He spoke internationally about the 500-year calendar and the future of humanity. “A new beginning is about to happen. Go back to where the wisdom is, with our elders and our ancestors. We must not lose the sacred knowledge that has been bestowed upon us, the five-fingered ones. We are about to embark on the next 500-year cycle and we must heal as nations.”

Leon Secatero came into many people’s lives with love and grace in his heart. He taught hundreds of thousands asking that we all, together as one, walk forward to do what is needed for our families and for one another. He simply asked in his last moments that we all come together, leaving behind us feelings of negativity from the past, to allow your tears to clean away the sadness in our hearts, to walk into the future together as one nation, as one people, as one heart.

An advisor to the United Nations, founder of the Spiritual Elders of Mother Earth, co-creator of the Unity Ride, he consulted with Sacred Earth Network, medicine people globally and more recently supported the New Mexico film industry in co-producing and narration of “S’odizin,” the documentary with grandfather Martin Martinez, New Mexico’s Native film industry through the Talking Stick Film Festival.

His circle of friends and loved ones reach far around the earth. Medicine men, shamans in Central and South America, Siberia, Canada, Australia and beyond, he spoke and connected to world leaders and global men of peace and prayer. All nations knew him and walked with him to bring hope and peace to the world. “Hope cannot be without peace,” Secatero said in one of his last meetings, “that’s all I want to leave the people. I want them to know there is hope and peace in this time. Now it is all up to you, as individuals, to make it happen.”

Leon Secatero leaves his children Alvira, Orlando, Shawn and Renee, his many grandchildren, sisters, tribal family members in Cañoncito, and all his dear respected friends internationally to continue on, for all the people of Mother Earth as he truly loved each and everyone.

Traditional services will be held today, Oct. 2, at 9 a.m. at the Deseadero family plot in Cañoncito.