



## A Tribute to the Life of Everett "Buck" Downey – 1923 - 2012

By Kristen Downey

On Feb. 14, 2012, Everett (Buck) William Downey, 88, was greeted by his bride, Mary Jean Goodell, in their eternal home together. Mary Jean predeceased him in 1990. His passing was sudden but he lived his final hours like he did much of his life – with dignity, honor and a smile that still made the nurses blush.

Buck was born on the Siletz Reservation on July 11, 1923, to George and Margaret Downey. He was the oldest of four children: Mary Ellen, Ida, and Marvin (all deceased).

Buck's favorite memories growing up were simple – fishing, hunting and picking berries with all the Goodell, Miller, Butler and Blacketer kids. Even after almost 50 years of living in Portland, Siletz was always his home and a place he felt the most comfortable surrounded by the family, friends and memories he cherished.

In 1941 Buck married Mary Jean and together they had five children, starting with the oldest: Bud, Tim (Kris), Jolyne, Henry (Jan) and Denise (Don). Buck had eight grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren, with another on the way.

Buck cherished his family, those related by blood and those he grew to love and respect over the years of his life. He always looked forward to family reunions, pow-wows and holidays when everyone came together.

Buck was laid to rest at Willamette National Cemetery with military honors on Feb. 20. Services included his favorite country classics, remembrances from family and friends, and a beautiful tribute on the drum from Bob Tom.

His family thanks those who were able to attend and those who sent their love from afar. May Buck's spirit live on through each of us.



Courtesy photos

Above: Everett "Buck" Downey

Left: Buck and Mary Jean

### New Baby!



### Jayda Louise (Simmons) Muniz-Strong

Creator has blessed us again, with a girl! Jayda Louise (Simmons) Muniz-Strong was born Jan. 24, 2012. She weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and was 19 inches long.

Proud parents are Aleatha (Levi) Simmons and Marcos Muniz-Strong. She joins siblings Jaysiah, JypSea, Jeff and Jeremy; grandmas Arliss Chatterson and Joella Strong; and great-grandma Wilma Strong.

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**Emergency dental visits available** – Contact the Siletz Community Dental Clinic if you experience dental pain or a dental emergency. The staff will do everything possible to see you as soon as reasonably possible. Check-in time is Monday-Thursday from 8:30-9 a.m. and Friday from 10-10:30 a.m. Afternoon check-in time is Monday-Friday from 1-1:30 p.m.

## Youth conduct pow-wow dance demonstration

By Tasha Mason

We would like to thank the Portland Area Office for asking our young Tribal members to come from Siletz and do a dance exhibition. Junior Miss Siletz Clarinda Black and Little Miss Siletz Jocelyn Hernandez were present and represented us well, as did Sahaylee Mason and Tre Jackson.

The children took turns demonstrating their dancing abilities in grass and jingle dancing. Tre even took some of the Elders onto the floor in a few owl dances.

I talked about what I know of Nee-Dash and Sahaylee wore her apron to show everyone what female feather dancers wear at solstice celebrations.

It was a great experience for all of us. We were grateful and honored to come to Portland and share our experiences with fellow Tribal members.

We hope to see you all at Culture Camp and can't wait to see you dancing at the pow-wow.

Courtesy photos

Pauline Montana and Tre Jackson (right) enjoy an owl dance at the Portland Area Office.

The group gathers (below) during the evening of dance.

