

## Indian Country Conversations with Elizabeth Woody, Oregon Poet Laureate

Elizabeth Woody (Navajo/Warm Springs/Wasco/Yakama) has published poetry, short fiction and essays, and is a visual artist. Her first poetry book, *Hand Into Stone*, received a 1990 American Book Award.

Her second and third collections, published in 1994, are *Luminaries of the Humble* by the University of Arizona Press and *Seven Hands, Seven Hearts, Prose and Poetry* by The Eighth Mountain Press.

Woody is an alumna of the Kellogg Foundation's Fellowship through the AIO Ambassadors program.

She is born for Tódích'íinii (Bitter Water clan) and her birthplace is Ganado, Ariz.

March 9, 2017 • 7 p.m.

Willamette University Campus - Rogers Music Center  
900 State St. • Salem, Oregon

ICC is hosted by Native American Programs



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## Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow

### Attention Siletz Tribal Artists

The 2017 Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow Committee is once again having a logo contest for the upcoming pow-wow in August 2017. All Siletz Tribal artists are encouraged to submit a pow-wow-themed logo.

The winning logo artist will receive a cash prize of \$250 and a professional banner with your logo. The winning artist will have his or her logo highlighted on Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow flyers and merchandise.

Please submit your artwork to the cultural education director's office at the Tribal Community Center or mail it to Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Attn: Pow-Wow Logo Contest, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

All entries must be received no later than Feb. 28, 2017.

### Royalty Crown Proposals

The Pow-Wow Committee is now accepting proposals for 2017-2018 royalty crowns. Proposals are being accepted for Miss Siletz, Junior Miss Siletz and Little Miss Siletz.

Proposals for a crown must include art design, size of the crown and a bid for the crown or crowns of your interest. Proposals can be submitted for individual crowns, two crowns or you can submit a bid for all three crowns.

Crown proposals must be turned in to the committee no later than Feb. 28, 2017. Proposals should be sent to Siletz Pow-Wow Committee, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

If you have any questions, contact Buddy Lane at 800-922-1399, ext 1230, or 541-444-8230.

## Need Rental Housing?

The Siletz Tribal Housing Department encourages you to apply for the Low-Income Rental Program waiting list in Siletz (1,2,3,4 bedroom) and Lincoln City (2, 3 bedroom at Neachesna Village). Applications can be obtained at any Tribal area office (Eugene, Salem, Portland, Siletz) or access online from the Tribal website – [ctsi.nsn.us](http://ctsi.nsn.us) – follow links to Tribal Services-Housing-Low Rent Apartments & Home Ownership.

For any questions call

800-922-1399, ext. 1322, or 541-444-8322; Fax: 541-444-8313

Ellery Peter Mortenson, Sr

Born

June 27, 1948

Salem, Oregon

Gone Fishin'

Nov. 21, 2016

Portland, Oregon

I've finished life's chores assigned to me,  
So put me on a boat headed out to sea.  
Please send along my fishing pole  
For I've been invited to the fishin' hole.

Where every day is a day to fish,  
To fill your heart with every wish.  
Don't worry or feel sad for me,  
I'm fishin' with the Master of the sea.

To all of those that think of me,  
Be happy as I go out to sea.  
If others wonder why I'm missin'  
Please just tell 'em I've gone fishin'



Ellery was born in Salem, Ore., to Verdun Mortenson (1919-1995) and Marjorie Menard Mortenson (1923-1993). His extended family included four sons:

Ronald (1967-2012), wife Kanani, son Ryan  
Ellery Jr.  
Edward  
Mortie, wife Edie, daughter Mariah

Brothers:

Ronald, wife Margaret, daughter Ronda  
Arthur, sons Matthew, Joey and Aaron  
Arnold, wife Virginia, son Christopher, daughter Michelle (1978-2007)  
Paul, son Michael

Sisters:

Sharon (1946-2003), husband Jim, son Jimmy (1967-2003). Daughter Lisa, husband Barry, son Nile. Daughter Sherry, husband Dennis, son DJ, granddaughter Ashley and grandson Brett; daughter Faustina and grandson Dayton  
Kathy, daughter Margo, sons Bradley and AJ. Son Mark, daughter Alexya, son Markez. Daughter Cheyanne

Companion of 32 years Debra Harmon, her daughter Jennifer, grandfather to her granddaughters Mariah and Megan and great-grandson Axel

Was the 'dad' to children of friend of 40+ years, Cora Merritt. Her son Nick (1963-2003), daughter Jacqueline and daughter Kristenlee. The grandfather to Tanya and Ryan, and Papa Ellery to her great-grandchildren Gage, Roselani (peanut) and Samantha

An avid fisherman and amazing craftsman, Ellery enjoyed years of fishing with the catch-and-release philosophy. He caught his first steelhead in Johnson Creek in the 1980s and was 'hooked' on playing the bigger fish.

The brothers used to walk from where they lived on Southeast Stark to the Willamette River and Johnson Creek to fish. They fished for carp, catfish, crappie and trout.

When his kids were young, they fished the Molalla River and the Clackamas. They started with trout and kids chasing fish and graduated to steelhead.

Some of the places Ellery fished were the Wilson River, Herman's Creek, Farraday Lake, Tanner Creek, Eagle Creek and along stretches of the Columbia River. His favorite place was Herman's Creek. He was definitely a fish whisperer.

Ellery was an integral part of building huge tradeshow exhibits for such commercial giants as Microsoft and Sony, and also crafted some fun stuff for OMSI that is still on display. In addition, he enjoyed building furniture for himself and others.

He started out working in a cannery, graduated to a chemical company then finally into the business of wood and building boats with his dad. After that he worked for L&W Woodworking, Slusher Sales, Chipman Chemical Company and finally back into working with and around wood – Ply-Mart, Built-rite Cabinets, Color & Design and Pinnacle Exhibits.

Eventually he began his own company, Third Dimension Exhibits, where he retired in 2010 and closed his company. After that he enjoyed visiting with his many friends in person and on the phone. He has now Gone Fishin' with those who have gone before him.

Here are a couple more things the family would like you to know about Ellery:

The majority of his photos throughout his life included pictures of him and his sons with their salmon and steelhead they caught on their trips. Fishing in the Mernard/Mortenson family has always been enjoyed, but Ellery Sr. was someone who could catch a fish with such elegance and skill. He was the best and if you listened he would teach you. There's a rock called the Casadero Rock that was gifted to him by fellow fisherman because he was the only person who could fish from this rock without slipping or falling.

Ellery started his own company "Third Dimension Exhibits" in 2005 and later retired in 2010.

During those years he employed friends and family who needed work during the recession and or wanted to learn the trade he loved. If there were ever a rock in a family, it was him. He adored children and it didn't matter whether they were family or not, he made sure they had food on the table. He was grumpy but sweet and his heart always prevailed.

Although his passing may be sad, he brought his extended and immediate family back together during his last months and we were all grateful to show him the same love and compassion as he did throughout his life. Know he is in a better place, don't cry but smile and know he knew it was his time and his heart was content with his life's accomplishments.

He was known as Dad, Grandpa, Papa, friend and my personal favorite uncle.