

Howlak Tichum

Anthony John "Big Rat" Suppah

Anthony John "Big Rat" Suppah, life-long resident of Warm Springs who loved sports and was involved in traditional activities of the tribes, passed away on September 30. He was 57.

Mr. Suppah was born on August 28, 1947 at Simnasho to parents Roosevelt and Martha (Culpus) Suppah. He was married to Lucille Suppah.

Tony "Big Rat" Suppah was a war veteran. He was in the U.S. Marines, and served two tours of duty in Vietnam.

In more recent years he showed his love of sports by



coaching youth sports teams. He was also involved in the traditional ceremonies of the tribes.

He is survived by his wife Lucille; children Cheryl Suppah, Leaf Suppah and Sherry Suppah, all of Arizona; Little

Bull Suppah of Simnasho; Red Sky and Rosie Suppah both of Warm Springs; stepchildren Penny Moody, Ovedt Moody and Valerie Suppah of Warm Springs; brother Sacred Heart Suppah of Warm Springs; sisters Muriel Suppah, Jewels Suppah, Brenda George and Patricia Suppah, all of Warm Springs; and numerous grandchildren. A daughter and brother preceded him in death.

Prayer served was held Oct. 1 at his home in Warm Springs. Dressing ceremony was the next day at the Simnasho Longhouse. Two nights of overnight were held.

Clifford Meachem

Clifford Meachem, 94, of Toppenish, Wash., was called home by our Creator on Saturday September 25, 2004 at Toppenish Community Hospital.

Clifford was born May 13, 1910 in White Swan, Wash., to Frank and Georgianna (Miller) Meachem. He was raised in Home Valley, along the Columbia River by his Aunt Virginia until the age of 12, when he joined his mother in Warm Springs.

Clifford attended and graduated from Chemawa Indian School in 1928. He then attended Ashland College for two years, studying Shakespeare, and acted in one of the Shakespeare Productions.

Clifford was the last hereditary chief of Tuxahi, grandson of Tuxahi who signed the Treaty of Warm Springs, Oregon in 1855. He was also the grandson of Chief Tumulth, who signed the treaties of 1855 for the Siletz and Grand Ronde Tribes of Oregon.

Clifford comes from a long line of strong leaders, and survivors. In 1929, he survived a Black Widow Spider bite.

Clifford joined the U.S. Marine Corps on April 17, 1944 and served until December 3, 1945. He achieved the rank of Rifle Sharpshooter on June 1, 1944. His special military qualification was as a surveyor.

His sea and foreign service included the Hawaiian Islands, Guam, Saipan and Sasebo, Japan.

He participated in the oc-



cupation of Sasebo, Japan in 1945.

Clifford was a survivor of the July 17, 1944 Port Chicago Disaster in which over 300 people were killed and the town of Port Chicago was leveled. Port Chicago is in Contra Costa County, Calif. in the Delta area. On that fateful day, he had pulled guard duty while the munitions ships were being loaded, and it is a mystery to this day as to the cause of the explosion.

Clifford worked as a civil engineer and worked on seven tunnels and bridges along the Columbia River. He worked on the Grand Coulee Dam, Bonneville Dam, The Dalles Dam, McNary Dam, John Day Dam, and The Feather River Earth Filled Dam in California.

He also surveyed the town of Grand Ronde and surveyed and laid out most of the roads on the Warm Springs Reservation.

As a surveyor, he discovered the original markers on the McQuinn Strip at the base of Mt. Jefferson, which today forms the western boundary of the Warm Springs Reservation.

He was a co-founder of Elliott Palmer American Legion Post in Warm Springs. Clifford

was also a licensed realtor in the State of Washington, studying with Steve Davenport.

Clifford married Kathleen Dorothy Gates in July of 1935 in Dallesport, Wash. He and his wife were avid rock hounds. They enjoyed bowling, gardening and trout fishing.

He was the oldest male member of the Yakama Nation and Grand Marshall for Treaty Days in 2004.

Clifford is survived by his daughter Colleen Reimer and husband Clint of Toppenish, Wash.; daughter Maxine Stephens and husband Larry of Prineville; niece Joyce Reyes of Tacoma; nieces Debbie Alvarez and Anita Jackson of Warm Springs; nephews Charles Jackson of Warm Springs; Mark Jackson of Terrebonne; and George Meachem Jr. of Tacoma; half brothers Max and Zane Jackson both of Warm Springs; eight grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife Kathleen on Dec. 9, 2001, his daughter, Sandra, two grandsons, Craig Reimer and Darin Lawver, a step grandson, Rick Stephens, brothers, George, Roy and Vernon and two sisters in infancy.

Funeral services were held September 30 at the Community Presbyterian Church in Wapato, Wash.

Military Honors were conducted by the Yakama Warriors Association in the Reservation Community Memorial Park west of Wapato.

Flu vaccine is in short supply

(AP) - Due to this year's scarcity of the flu vaccine, Oregon health officials plan to issue a strict mandate laying out who is eligible to receive the vaccine. Health care providers who violate the mandate could be fined up to \$500.

Right now, the state only has 25 percent of the vaccine needed to immunize high risk people, health officials said. More has been ordered but no one knows whether it will arrive, said Dr. Grant Higginson, Oregon public health officer.

The national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended that the vaccine goes only to those who need it most, including the very young, the elderly, those with chronic health conditions and medical personnel who work directly with patients.

Complications of influenza, a viral respiratory disease, kills an estimated 36,000 people a year in the United States, about 500 in Oregon. Most are elderly.

Martha Priedeman, a researcher in the Oregon Department of Human Services immunization program, said at least eight local health departments, nine hospitals and two

health systems have no vaccine. Some retailers, she said, have the vaccine and are willing to share.

"We talked to some of them," she said. "All say they're willing to look at their supply and see how it matches up with the

pockets of need." The vaccine supply crisis results from the British government's suspension of the license of Chiron Corp., which makes half of the 100 million doses of vaccine used in the United States.

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Mill

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Mill manager Larry Potts and assistant manager Ralph Minnick said the project has proven so successful that Forest Products Industries is considering additional energy efficiency improvements.

But it is not likely, they said, that the next project will be quite as successful as the compressor

project - paid for at virtually no cost to the Forest Products Industries.

The energy efficiency incentive program, the Energy Trust of Oregon, which funded the compressor work at the mill is made possible through a public-purpose charge that is added to power bills, explained Pacific Power's Vince Crawford.

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