

Howlak Tichum

As councilman, Jackson worked on key projects for the tribes

Zane Jackson was born at Dry Hollow on the Warm Springs Reservation to Charles and Georgiana (Miller) Jackson on January 13, 1924. He was the youngest of his parents' children.

He had two older brothers, Vernon, who preceded him in death, and Max Jackson, who still resides in Warm Springs. He also had older half-brothers from his mother's first marriage, Clifford, George and Roy Meacham. Mr. Jackson had no sisters who survived past infancy.

His father was both a cattle rancher and a tribal leader who served on the Warm Springs Tribal Council for many terms, some as chairman. Zane Jackson spent his youth helping with the ranch, and the experience taught him the value of hard work.

Unlike his older brothers who all attended Chemawa Indian School near Salem, as a youth Mr. Jackson went to Madras Union High School, where he played on the basketball team. He often joked that he was the shortest center Madras ever had.

In the fall of 1942 he was elected Sergeant of Arms for the high school student association and actively participated in other school activities.

In mid-1942, Mr. Jackson, brother Max and a number of other reservation boys received their Selective Service numbers. In the spring of 1943, Zane enlisted in the U.S. Navy. After basic train-



Council Chairman Jackson in the mid 1970s.

ing and a stint at a naval installation in Farragut, Idaho, he shipped out to the Pacific theatre.

He served as a Pharmacist's Mate and was billeted at a naval field hospital in New Caledonia, about 800 miles east of Australia. After an honorable discharge from the armed services in 1946, Mr. Jackson went to work as a heavy equipment operator and log truck driver for Wilson Lumber Co., hauling reservation logs to the Warm Springs Lumber Company mill.

Mr. Jackson joined a few

other tribal members who started up their own logging businesses, contracting with the new tribally owned mill to harvest tribal timber on the reservation and deliver it to the mill.

Mr. Jackson, like his father, built a successful business. Also like his father, he defined success in both financial and human terms. He took pleasure in the fact that he and the other loggers were providing good, solid job opportunities to tribal members. He would often hire a man and give him a chance to "turn his life around," even when

he didn't really need any more workers.

Mr. Jackson earned respect in the community and was first elected to the Tribal Council in 1971. He served continuously until he resigned in July, 2004. During his 33 year tenure on the Tribal Council, he served four terms as chairman.

One of the most significant events in Mr. Jackson's public service career came on December 12, 1988, when he and 15 other tribal leaders were invited to discuss issues of concern to Indian people with President Ronald Reagan at the White House.

While serving on the Tribal Council, Mr. Jackson always put the welfare of the tribal membership before any personal consideration. He was a tireless promoter of giving tribal members a chance to show what they could do. He also served on the Kah-Nee-Ta board for many years. Jackson was Tribal Council chairman when an agreement was reached to bring telephone service to the rural areas of the reservation. During his tenure, arbitration was held and a satisfactory settlement was reached on an adjustment to the lease fee for the Round Butte project with Portland General Electric.

As chairman he oversaw the establishment of separate trust funds for the Senior Citizens Pension Fund and Tribal Education Scholarship Fund. It was also under his leadership that the tribes entered into water negotiations and reached an agreement beneficial to the tribes with the State of Oregon. Other significant events during Jackson's terms as chairman include pass-



Photo from the 1988 tribal annual report



Photo above and left courtesy of the Jackson family

Mr. Jackson addresses the gathering at the dedication of the re-regulating dam. And at top, in 1988 shaking hands with President Ronald Reagan.

ing referendums authorizing the construction of the Museum at Warm Springs, the Early Childhood Education Center, and the Health and Wellness Clinic.

Mr. Jackson was an avid golfer and traveled to "pro-am" tournaments around the West in search of the "bogey free" round of golf. In the process he made many other friends and proved to be a natural goodwill ambassador for Warm Springs. During his lifetime, Mr. Jackson made many friends and few enemies. Perhaps it was his quick smile or the "twinkle" in his eye as he was gently chiding you about something.

Mr. Jackson was first married to Norma (Kurtz) Jackson. They adopted a daughter Donna

(Jackson) Behrend, now deceased. Zane and Norma divorced in 1984. Mr. Jackson married Patricia McQuire in 1985. He has three step-children, Tonya Davis, Gary and Stacey Bean. Mr. Jackson was preceded in death by his parents, uncles and aunts. He is survived by his brother Max, his cousin Zelma, his nieces Colleen (Meacham) Reimer, Maxine (Meacham) Stephens, Deborah and Anita Jackson, Joyce (Meacham) Reyes, and his nephews George Meacham Jr., Mark and Charles Jackson, cousins Alvis Smith Sr., Claude Smith Sr., and numerous other cousins, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

News from Indian Country

Remains believed to be 5,000 years old

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Bone fragments unearthed at a planned development site turned up what archaeologists believe are the 5,000-year-old remains of two American Indians.

The remains, accompanied by trash pits, charcoal, carbonized seeds and tools, suggest a camp used by nomadic hunters who might have gathered medicinal herbs and food in the

area around 3000 B.C., said David Pollack, a Kentucky Heritage Council archaeologist and site-protection manager.

Indian tribes have been notified of last week's find in southern Jefferson County, Ky. The Army Corps of Engineers also is involved in handling the site.

Spear tips and burned rock were found several years earlier at the 55-acre site near Interstate 65 that is slated for a Wal-

Mart, restaurants and condominiums, officials said.

Archaeologists hired by developer Hagan Properties are still working to determine the scope and significance of the find — and if more remains exist beyond a one- to two-acre section.

Pollack said state officials might ask the developer to preserve the burial area. If that can't be done, he said, the remains likely will be moved.

Tribes asked to evaluate burial site

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs are being asked to participate in the evaluation of an American Indian burial site on a parcel of land located near Antelope.

A youth ministry that operates a camp on a ranch south of Antelope is in the

process of purchasing the 480-acre parcel from the state. The evaluation of the burial site is part of the sale process.

Colorado-based Young Life in the 1990s purchased the former Rancho Rajneesh, and converted it into a camp, now called Wildhorse Canyon, that hosts 6,000 youth during the

summer, and another 12,000 during the off-season.

Last week, the State Land Board gave preliminary approval to sell the 480-acre parcel to Young Life. The Department of State Lands is selling state-owned parcels that are isolated and difficult to manage.

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