

Howlak Tichum

Mrs. Margaret Peters Charley, Yumnanick, 1923-2009

Mrs. Margaret Peters Charley, Yumnanick, tribal elder, was born on February 19, 1923 to Mary (Anderson) and Frank Lahom Peters at the Peters allotment at Tixni (Shearers Falls area) along the Deschutes River in the ancient fishing village of her Tyghxpum ancestors. This was the childhood home she was raised in by her parents in her formative years, with her brother Edwin Peters.

Other immediate family members included her beloved Ulla and Poosha, Carrie Yumnanick Peters and George Washington Peters (his sisters were Carrie John and Elizabeth Simtustus), two great-grandfathers, Columbia Dick and Peter P'al Lahom, all Tyghxpum from Tixni, Uncle Henry Peters, his wife Alty Baker, and their children.

At age 7, Margaret was declared a ward of the BIA Superintendent and ordered to the Warm Springs Reservation to begin boarding school.

Later, in her higher grades, she studied at Chemawa. It was from her own paternal family that Mrs. Charley learned the importance education would play in the lives of her own children and grandchildren.

In the early spring of 1943, as a young lady, Margaret was making preparations to attend business school in Portland. One visit from Mrs. Clara Culp Charley changed her life forever.

Margaret was betrothed on that day to Russell Charley. An agreement was made to arrange the marriage between Margaret and Russell by Mrs. Frank Charley, and Margaret's own maternal aunts, Jessie Arthur and Florence Pete.

Russell courted his future bride during the annual Root Feast. Their elders gathered for a wedding trade soon after. Their first home was at the old Culp Ranch, with her new in-laws.

In 1955, Mr. And Mrs. Russell Charley built a brand new home on the allotment of her great-aunt, Aupyowx, who was once the head woman at the Simnasho Longhouse, and by that time ran her own longhouse.

She and her peers of the day were the caretakers and gatekeepers to the ancient vision quest site currently known as Sweathouse Butte.

Many fond memories were made and kept by the young Charley Family in their new home. All the holidays and birthdays were observed. They honored their daughters with wedding trades. Indian names were given. First gathering, first kill, first catch ceremonies, memorials and many shaker meetings were hosted at the family home.

As wife of a cattle rancher and farmers, Mrs. Charley enjoyed the outings to Charley, Wire, Kaskella, and Eagle Springs Corrals for cattle rides, and the general horse ride at Red Lake Corral.

There, she enjoyed cooking beside the rest of the wives and providing a hearty meal to the cowboys. Yumnanick kept the books for the ranch and farm. She and Russell had a profitable run of their farm operation. They were very prudent with their money, careful to live only within their means.

In 1960, Mrs. Charley joined the 1910 Indian Shaker Church to become a life-long member. Many conventions and holidays were observed by the Charley family in the church, with Easter and Christmas Eve being all-time favorites.

In her 50s, Yumnanick was named to the line of ceremo-



nal food gatherers by the late chief, Amos Simtustus Sr., an honorable role and duty she fulfilled for the remainder of her life. She groomed daughters, kathlas and great-granddaughters to step into role and duty.

Mrs. Charlie, a homemaker, taught by example as she worked very hard to put up, take care of and share food. An avid root digger, huckleberry picker, fish and meat cutter, she ran a smokehouse, filled seasonally. She loved to can and preserve foods, baked all her cakes, pies and breads from scratch. She ran a full pantry and loved to cook with the ladies in the longhouse or at the Shaker Church.

Mrs. Charley was also the historian for her Tyghx relatives, a weaver, bead worker, hide tanner, tribal artisan in her own right.

She kept a journal, studied her Bible daily, loved to sketch scenes of daily life drawn from her own childhood memories. She loved to bathe in the Warm Springs River, and ran her own sweathouse. She was known for her knowledge of traditional medicinal herbs and teas.

Mrs. Charley loved to strike huckleberry picking camp. She knew of all the fields to gather the foods, still gathered roots in the old fields her maternal elders. Her favorite digging/picking crew were her two aunts, Jessie Arthur and Florence Pete and close relative Clara Moody and her own brood of children. There were all of those the up-picking trips to The Dalles, Hood River, and Willamette Valley to put up more of God's bounty. This life was a standard for the day, not bygone.

Mrs. Charlie had many fond memories of her in-laws Clara and Frank Charley and their three daughters, son and all of their respective spouses, children and grandchildren. She especially loved the winter months as the women enjoyed tanning hides, sewing, bead working, weaving and telling of legends of the Culp family's ancient name, Mahtaht Spilyay; they were religious leaders, tribal leaders and keepers of wulsucus in their own right.

Mom was pleased to be married into the Culp/Charley family, for they were like the family she was born into, all hard workers, providers, self-sufficient and generous. Quick to share, all that they worked so hard to put up is a testament to God's intent for all his children to live an abundant life.

None of these fine people ever depended on the tribe or their people to take care of them. They believed leaders who lived off of their people were not leaders at all; leaders were strong and took care of their people from their own food stores. Today, leaders feed

the people from the people's own purchase orders and crow about it. They believe a leader was public regarding, who put their people first!

When asked the question: "What is your single greatest achievement?" Mrs. Charley sat up straight and said: "My husband and I were very blessed with ten beautiful babies, eight of them grew up to a full adult life. It's because we dedicated them at birth in the Shaker Church, we raised them to put God, our own peoples' food ways, the family/Tyghx history, all rites of passage were observed and honored and a very high standard was placed on education. All eight of our children finished high school, so have our grandchildren, seven and three grandchildren now have their degrees, three of our great grandsons are now in the early years of their college education. Putting God, family, and education first has paid off, today our children are all active, productive members of their tribe right here in Warm Springs. Because we raised our children with a strong spiritual foundation that was rock solid, it's what held our family together, kept us busy, thriving and growing throughout my lifetime. It's all for God's glory, we just did our oddly duty as parents."

Yumnanick was a beloved mother to Cordelia Miller, Melissa Tanewasha, Rosalind Sampson, Merilda, Rose Mary, Judith, Frank P. Lahom Charley and Russell V. Qualchn Charley, Jr. Kathlas and Ullas: Leffert, Emerson and Travis Miller; Melva Tanewasha Charley, Clarice Bagley Rios, Willis Edwin Bagley, Kristina, Gerald and Jarrod Sampson, Nicole, Tricia and Sheilina Charley, Aaron Poteat Charley, and Russell George Charley III.

She enjoyed bowling with her great-grandchildren: Eric Elmer Miller, Renee, Tama, and Cameron Miller, Kaylyn and Kyle Miller, Martin Tanewasha Brown, Margaret and Israel Tapia, Jr., Jaylyn and Julius Bagley, Octavio, Roman and Louis Rios, Richard, Michael, Clarice and Larissa McConville, Lyla Jane and Lianne Sampson, Lilianna Alexis Bugaren, Kevin and Jordan Jackson, and Niya Kenda Marie Charley. One great-great-grandson, Oriol Leal. Sons-in-law are: Everette Miller, Gerald Bagley, the late Marty Tanewasha, Gerald Sampson Sr.; and Adrian Smith.

Very close relatives: Anthony, Ronnie, Arlen, Davis, Archie Washines and their spouses and families, Harriette and Leon Strom, Shike families of Yakama/Warm Springs, the grandchildren of maternal aunts Jessie Anderson Arthur, Annie Tewee, Florence Pete, Melanie Colwash, Darrin Tewee, Yvonne Tapedo, Levi and Leroy Bobb, Kate Keo Jackson and Levi Keo family, the Peter Lahom clan, Gladys Thompson family, children of Dorothy and Amos Simtustus, Amelia Colwash Family, the Charley/Patt/Smith/Spino clan, the Polk clan, Culpus/Thompson/Jim clan, all sisters and brothers in faith at

the Shaker Church, dear friends from the old Kah-Nee-Ta Village, where Mr. And Mrs. Charley and all their children were employed at one time.

Yumnanick was a living treasure. Her kind, gentle loving and generous ways will be missed dearly. She lived an abundant life. She passed away on October 17, 2009, going home to Heaven for that great reunion with her beloved husband, Russell V. Charley Sr.; her parents Mary (Anderson) and Frank Peters, her beloved Ulla Yumnanick and Poosha George Peters; her two great-grandfathers Columbia Dick and Peter Lahom; Kathla Susie (Polk) and Tilla John Moses Anderson; her Maternal Aunts Jessie, Annie and Florence, and uncles Charlie and Willis Anderson; her brother, Edwin; two infant sons Willis V. and Willis L. Charley; granddaughter, Norma Lynn; her ancestors great-great-grandfather Lahom, Qualchn and Kok-out; great-great-great-grandfather Owhi, (Owhi's six brothers, Skloom, Suluskin, Showaway, Teias, Tuh-noo-num, and Tewinet; and sisters Kamashni, the mother of Kamiakin).

Yumnanick descends directly from Qualchn (Owhi's son). Russell Charley descends from Tikalics (Owhi's daughter). Tokalic's son's name was Charley Qualchn, father of Skookum Charley (and Poosha to Frank, Elmer, Earl and Robert Charley). Memo of correction to misspoken adversaries: the family does not descend from Kamiakin. Yes, he was from the same extended family. Kamiakin, Chief Joseph and Qualchn were all first-cousins. No, the family is not Paulosepum. Kimiak's Paulose Heritage is from his paternal family, who was tsyik. Many fine relatives of the family and leaders do descend from these ancestors; all of the family are from both sides of the N'chi-wana.

Yumnanick's final resting place is at the Skookum Creek Cemetery, in Charley Canyon. There has not been a loss in the family since 1981. Yumanick is a great loss, she will be missed by all of her loved ones, relatives, friends in church, and in the line at feast-time.

Births

Jadrian Thane Gilbert Kalama Ty EagleSpeaker and Tatum Kalam of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Jadrian Thane Gilbert Kalama, born on November 15, 2009.

Jadrian joins brother Farley EagleSpeaker, age 6. Grandparents on the father's side are Aurolyn Stwyer-Pinkham and Farley EagleSpeaker.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Andrea Kalama and Gilbert Kalama Sr.

Erin Lanai Teeman-Smith Michael Teeman and Rhyan Smith of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Erin Lanai Teeman-Smith, born on November 11, 2009.

Grandparents on the father's side are Manul Teeman and Laura Kenney of Warm Springs.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Matthev Smith and Billie Smith of Redmond.

Art competition seeks entries

Bringing Honor Through Education is the theme of the Office of Indian Education 2010 Native American Student Art Competition.

The competition celebrates the values and successes of education in Native American communities. The competition is open to all Native students in grades pre-K through 12. The deadline for submissions is Jan. 29, 2010.

Submissions will be judged in six different grade levels, and prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place winners in the artist and writing categories.

In recognition of the stu-

dents' artistic talents, the 200 Native American Student Artist winning entries were exhibited at the U.S. Department of Education, the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, the Oklahoma History Center, and the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture.

The student art competition rules require that a student register their entry online or over the phone prior to submitting an entry. For additional information, rules and entry form, please visit:

kids.indianeducation.org; email sac@indianeducation.org; or call 866-259-0060.



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