

Walking On...

**Morales Clifford Singer**

Aug. 23, 1973 - Jan. 26, 2011

Morales Clifford Singer, or "Maui" as some of his close friends called him, was not just your average guy; he was a one-of-a-kind. If you asked anyone who knew him, many descriptive words came to mind: Navajo, passionate Duck fan, handsome man with long black hair, nice, helpful, dedicated, loyal, family-oriented, respectful, intelligent and reliable. The list could go on and on, but in the end, he was a loving father of three teenagers, a good son to retired parents, a doting uncle to his niece and a lil' brother to three older siblings.



Morales Singer was born and raised in Salem, Ore., on Aug. 23, 1973, and his young 37-year-old life came to a sudden end on Jan. 26, 2011. He was a product of Salem-Keizer public schools (Sumpter Elementary School and Judson Middle School) and a proud Sprague High School Class of 1991 graduate. Morales was baptized as a Christian at Calvary Baptist Church and was a spiritual man strong in faith. He was a lifelong resident of Salem.

Morales was proud of his American Indian heritage and exhibited Native pride in many ways. He was a full-blooded Navajo enrolled in the Western Agency of the Navajo Nation. He was from the To'dichii'nii' Clan (Bitter Water) born for the To'aah'ni' (Near The Water) Clan. His late maternal grandparents are John and Maggie Billy of (Kin Hozhini) Manuelito, N.M., and his late paternal grandparents were Clifford Sr. and Clara Singer of (To'denas zhaii) Kayenta, Ariz. One of Morales' paternal grandfathers, Richard Singer Sr., was a Navajo Code Talker who served in World War II and posthumously received a Silver Star for his service as a U.S. Marine. Morales carried great pride knowing his grandfather and many Navajo people served proudly in the armed services.

Morales was a master of his domain, which was the Singer Family homefront.

He was both a "Mr. Mom" to his three children, but also was a caregiver to his retired parents and young niece. He was a jack-of-all-trades with juggling household duties, such as cooking, cleaning, chopping wood, grocery shopping, maintaining the yard and the family vehicles, conducting neighborhood watch, in addition to a whole host of other things he truly enjoyed.

He had a passion for all things sports (University of Oregon Ducks football, Portland Trailblazers basketball, Washington Redskins professional football), a love of classic rock music, an interest in public affairs and a fan of the classics (The Marx Brothers' movies and cartoons).

He loved the great outdoors, especially the Oregon Coast, Three Pools at the Little North Fork and also the high deserts of central Oregon and his other home, the Navajo Indian Reservation in the southwestern United States.

Morales is survived by his parents, Sam and Irene; three siblings, Marcie (Josh), Mike (Carolyn) and Michelle; three children, Cody, Elijah and Jaliene; niece, Shaelee; and many relatives who span the western United States.

**Chinuk Wawa classes in Portland**

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde will be offering Chinuk Wawa language classes through its Portland satellite. A Chinuk Wawa class for beginning speakers will run from 5:30-7 p.m. followed by a class for intermediate speakers from 7-8:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to come for the full three-hours.

Classes will be held on:

February: 16.

March: 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.

The Portland satellite office is located at 4445 S.W. Barbur Blvd., Portland, OR 97239 Contact Eric Bernando at Chinukwawa@gmail.com for more information. ■

**Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program**  
**Wawa pus tenas "Speaking for Children/Youth"**

Each year, approximately 780,000 children in the U.S. are caught in the court and child welfare maze because they are unable to live safely at home. Approximately 13,965 children in the state of Oregon have been in foster care at least once during the past year. Currently, there are approximately 87 Grand Ronde children in foster care. Half of those children are wards of the Tribal Court right here in the Grand Ronde Community. The Grand Ronde Tribal Court is looking for committed, caring volunteers who want to help these children by advocating for the child. The Tribal Court CASA Program will train all volunteer advocates. Give these children a voice during this difficult time, help these children to receive the services they need, stay connected to their culture and find safe permanent homes.

If you would like more information on how to volunteer and better serve our Tribal Children, please detach and complete this form and return it to: Tribal Court Programs Specialist, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347. For additional information, call 503-879-4623 or e-mail: [julie.boekhoff@grandronde.org](mailto:julie.boekhoff@grandronde.org)



- please send me a CASA Advocate Application
- please send me more information about the Tribal Court CASA Program

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**6th Annual Native Caring...  
A Conference to Learn, Connect & Share**



March 30 - 31, 2011

Spirit Mountain Casino and Resort  
Grand Ronde, Oregon

Come and join other caregivers of Native elders and relative caregivers of children from Northwest Indian communities in this two-day event. You have the opportunity to attend valuable workshops that will enhance your caregiving skills and provide you with a break from your daily responsibilities.

Hosted by:  
**The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde**

and Other Oregon partnering Tribes, Coquille Indian Tribe, Confederated Tribe of Siletz Indian, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, The Klamath Tribes, Burns Paiute Tribe, The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians., the State Unit on Aging and Oregon Area Agencies on Aging.

**Topics Include:**

- Power of Positive Thinking
- Heart Healthy
- Nutrition and Fitness
- Stress Management
- Native Wellness
- Financial Fraud & Scams
- Feeling better is more than physical
- Dementia - Challenges
- Living Well - Chronic Disease Self-Management
- Social Security - What is it for You?
- Health issues and concerns of children raised by grandparents.

Coordinated by The Native Wellness Institute

For more information, contact: Bonnie Mercier at Grand Ronde (503) 879-2016 or Judy Bowen, Oregon State Unit on Aging (503) 373-1842

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Tribal members with Skooum health plan  
make your appointment now, start feeling better today.