

Alaska Band Chief Passes

A noted band chief of the Southeastern Cherokee Council has crossed over. John BraveBear Crowder was chief of the Big Lake Eagle Band of Alaska, and has passed away after a lengthy illness.

John held a prominent position with the Department Of Military And Veterans" Affairs. In addition he was Commander of the 492nd Coastal Command. John Brave Bear passed away August 2, 2011. He is survived by his wife Mildred BrightStar Crowder, who currently resides in Ocala, Florida.

We extend our sympathy to the family of John and wish the best for the continuance and growth of the Big Lake Eagle Band of Alaska.



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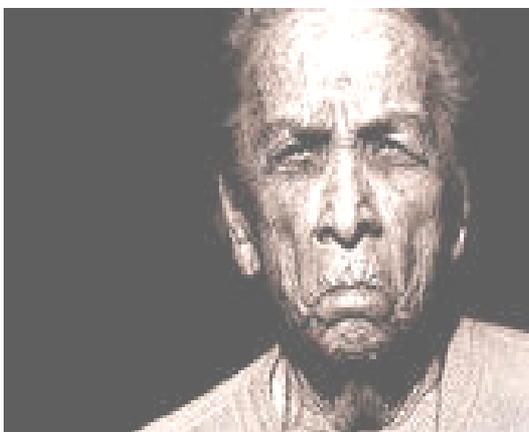
"Preserving and Teaching Native American Culture to all who wish to walk the Native path."

New members are welcome, contact information above.

We Honor Our Elders



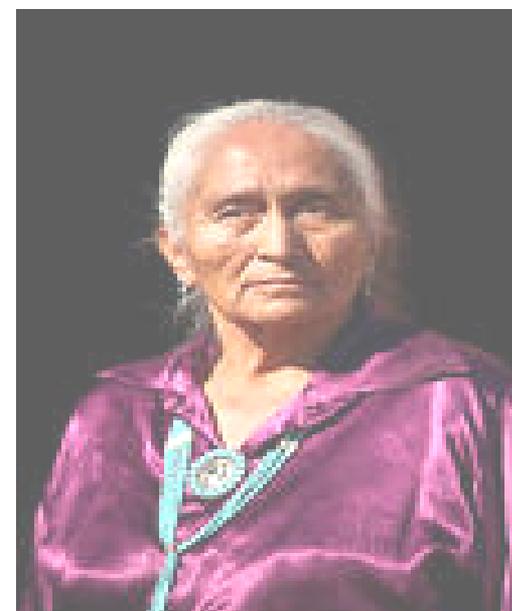
It has long been our Native tradition to honor our elders. We protect them during the Cold Moons. We listen to them tell stories of the "old ways". We garner their wisdom and put their counsel into action to better our spiritual walk. The lines and wrinkles on the face are not marks of shame, but imprints of honor that inspire to endure the difficulties of walking the Red Road.



In the faces of our elders we see dignity and will power. Hard has been the struggle in generations gone by. Displaced from ancestral lands, robbed of culture and language, the elders that remain with us are our treasure.



We have nothing to fear of the future lest we forget the fortitude of our ancestors. The elders who remain with us are far advanced on their trek around the Medicine Wheel Of Life. Some of them will soon join the Ancestors whose wisdom resides in the North. Now is the time to collect all the knowledge and stories from the elders while they are yet with us and can instruct us in the best way to live.



Walk the "Good Red Road", say the traditional elders. Walk in Balance and in Beauty. Forget not the old ways. Remember where the bones of your ancestors are buried. Be brave and strong. Honor Mother Earth and Father Sky. Take care of the water. Listen to the wisdom of the elders. Teach the children. Do not let them fall into the snares and pitfalls of modern society. Teach them also, the Old Ways.

