Deeply missed but will never be forgotten

Lawrence Baptiste Catholique
May 22, 1956 - Feb 12, 2009

Lawrence was renowned & well respected for his traditional skills & love for the land and for his spiritual knowledge.

Lawrence used his traditional skills that he learned from his parents as a guide, hunter, trapper and as a cultural teacher. Lawrence was a strong believer in traditional healing and as a former alcohol and drugs counselor was always willing to help those that came to him for help.

Lawrence loved participating in traditional games such as hand-games (his team came in second place in 2007 at Canadian Aboriginal Men’s Handgames Championship in Behchoko), drum dances where he was seen either joining in the circle of dancers or drumming and singing.

He was also a former board member for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board and over the years worked with archaeologists and developers to identify traditional land use areas and historical sites of his ancestors. For years Lawrence was also a Band council member and it was because his profound and valuable knowledge and love for the land, water, wildlife and his people that Lawrence got involved with politics to ensure that the natural resources will be here for the future generation to enjoy as he had. Lawrence truly was a man of the Land, during his lifetime, he spend seasons out on the land with his family and sometimes by himself and he had tremendous respect for traditional culture.

Lawrence is survived by his father Pierre, sisters Mary Jane (Antoine) & Marina, brothers Herman, Joseph, Henry and adopted brother Ray Griffith, partner Agnes, children Ramona, Clifford and Corey and nieces and nephews Jason (Jennifer) Delores, Brandon, Jesse, Laura Jane, Denecho, Hermaline, Saya, Lorenz, Deserea, Monique, Timothy and aunts and uncles. Lawrence also had many relatives and special friends in the NWT, across Canada and the United States.

The Catholique and Michel families would like to thank all the people and organizations/businesses that generously donated resources in their time of need. Please know that your contribution was greatly appreciated and a big Marci Cho to the community of Lutsel K’e for your overwhelming support and kindness that you gave to us during our time of great need.

Our Creator
Today is the day that You took someone we dearly love
We know that we need not worry
Because You are there with him with open arms

Our Creator
The man that stands before You was deeply loved
Although it seems like it is the end
Now the memories of him shall begin

Our Creator
We are here today with sorrow and grief
But when we look up toward Heaven there will be a sense of relief
Because the man before you is in a better place

Today is not a day of death, but rebirth
Because he lived in life in high spirits here on Earth
So on this day we shall look back no more
Because on this day he is with You, Our Creator

He will always be forever in our hearts.