



Who has Been Your Greatest Inspiration in Life?

ONE OF A KIND MAMA

"Mama exhorted her children at every opportunity to "jump at the sun." We might not land on the sun, but at least we get off the ground." This quote is what my mama, Trudy, represent to me. This is why she has been the greatest inspiration in my life.

There are many reasons why I think my mama is an inspiration to me. My mama raised me my whole life as a single mother. She made a life for us, found a wonderful job without a college education, she gave me what I wanted and needed, I still can't ask for more. Me and my mama consider each other best friends, we talk to each other about everything and the most important thing to me is that she is always there for me when things get tough. But like other mothers and daughters we have our days, we have our problems, our arguments, and also our fights, but in the end I realize that she is just being a parent.

I have accomplished a lot of things in this crazy world and if it was not for her I wouldn't have become the person I am today, thanks to my mama. In my life time, I never regret anything that me and my mama went through together whether it was bad or good.

For what my mama did for me I couldn't ask for more. I love and respect her so much and I wouldn't change a thing.

In conclusion, I just explained many reasons why I choose my mama as my greatest inspiration in my life. To me I think all parents are great inspirations to their children's life, because I know for sure mine is. "Nobody knows of the work it makes to keep the home together. Nobody knows of the steps it takes, Nobody knows-but Mother."

By Tashina McBride

THERE HAS BEEN ONE PERSON WHO HAS BEEN THE GREATEST INSPIRATION IN MY LIFE-MY MOM.



My mom, Karri Donner, is a successful person with a good paying job. So I am going to do my best to be a successful person like her. The reason why I chose my mother is because she has a lot to do with the kind of person I am today.

When I was a kid she always had a lot of rules especially growing up and you want to have fun. Now that I am older, I know the reason why she made me follow these rules is because she loved me. It was to keep me out of trouble, in school, and to keep doing good things. For this I thank her because with her help and these rules, I am the type of person I am now. Another reason she is my greatest inspiration is that she is a successful person. That is why I plan to go to college and be successful in life. She has inspired me to go to college and I will. I plan to have a good paying job and other things that will make me a happy and productive person in society. I want to be just like her.

In conclusion, these are only some of the reasons why my mom is my greatest inspiration. By going to college I will become successful just like my mom. Without the help of my mom, I don't think I would be the person I am today. A person who wants to go out and be successful and later have a good paying job. So with all the help that my mother has given me I thank her.

By Joseph Comes Flying

A SIGNIFICANT EVENT IN MY LIFE

"Just Do It." this famous quote from Nike contains words that I live by. I am going to tell you what has been one of the most significant events in my life, The significant event to me has to be Dakota Oyate Challenge, in Huron, SD

The reason why I picked this is because I had so much fun in it at cchs. Because I was with my friends or I mean playing basketball with boys I know, We all had a great time together, we went to the movies, also a dance.

D.O.C. Is a basketball tournament held in Huron, SD.

Every year there is only eight elimination teams, Crow Creek, Omaha, Tiospa Zina & Topa, Flandreau, Marty, Crazy Horse, and Tahini, All teams play one game a day and one champion is crowned. This year, 2009, the champion was the Omaha Nation Chiefs. The first day we Crow Creek played Tiospa Topa, and came out with a victory, the second night we played Flandreau another victory, and the last night we met up with Omaha Nation, The Defending Champs.

We started off pretty good until late in the second half we all fell apart, our shots wouldn't go in. and Omaha ended up beating us by eight points, we took 2nd overall but it was awesome because Crow Creek has not mad it to the Championship in like five years. And my senior year, I led Crow Creek to and through the Tournament. I got All-Tourney for Crow Creek, but I got Jacked for Mr. Defense.

In conclusion, I have just told you what significant event occurred during my high school years. It was AWESOME!

By Walter Ross



What Does it Mean To You To Be Native American?

FISHING WITH OUR FAMILY

My cousin, Elvera, and I go fishing with our families, like Richard St Cloud, Ronala St Cloud, Richinda St Cloud, my sister Venetia St Cloud, my cousin Elvera Driving Hawk, Elvera's brother Baby Pat Driving Hawk, Brandi Driving Hawk, Patrick Driving Hawk, Caitlyn Driving Hawk, Steven Driving Hawk, and oh, I almost forgot about me- Deshambrah St Cloud.

Usually we catch a lot of fish- catfish, walleye, carp, and last but not least, bass. They are all very good. Elvera and I like catfish best, we like their meat, it's very good.

Once, us kids went swimming, there we saw snakes coming to shore; we were all screaming our heads off, then a dust storm came, so we hid under the boat ramp. Under the ramp a dead fish came up behind my cousin Elvera and she started to cry because she thought it was going to eat her. Then my Aunt Brandi told us that we had to get out because there was a big thunderstorm coming, so we headed back to shore and got in the tent so the storm would not harm us. We hid under the blankets to be protected. When the storm stopped we fished and swam some more, we got to swim until it got darker and cold. Then we got out and went to get dressed, and then we had supper. We had dessert, it was s'mores they were so good.

When morning time came we got dressed and had breakfast, then my Aunt Brandi said her water broke- she was going to have a baby! We took her to the hospital in Pierre and my Uncle Pat got excited because he was going to be a Daddy- he has 4 children including the baby that was born, We all got excited because my Aunt had a beautiful baby girl, her name was Caitlyn Patricia Driving Hawk and she was born on 8/11/08 at 8:00 in the morning at St Mary's Health Care Center.

We all went to Wal-Mart to get her a birthday present; I got her a little walker- my aunt said that it's too big for her, but I said "oh well, she'll grow into it." I thought she was going to get out of the hospital on her birthday, but the doctor said that no babies get out for four days, so we went home to go eat.

That's what happened one time when we went fishing.

By Deshambrah St. Cloud



What is the "HITHUNKALA" doing? What is your favorite "WOYUTE"?



Setting an Example: Myron Williams, Lakota/Dakota Akicita

Part 1

Where did you grow up? I was born on the Lake Traverse Reservation in Northeastern South Dakota. The Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota along with the Mdewakantowan, Wahpekute and Santee descendants also live there as enrolled members of the tribe. We lived here until I was in the first grade, then we moved to Hastings, Nebraska. When I was 12 years old we moved back to Sisseton. I graduated from Sisseton high school and went to college at the University of South Dakota for one year, then went into the military.

Who had the biggest influence in your life? My grandfather. My grandparents raised me. I spent a lot of time with my grandfather; hunting and trapping with him. He was a very spiritual person, he taught me about respecting life, about respecting animals and vegetation, and about life itself.

Prior to me going to school it was the freedom of being outdoors. During the winter we stayed in town and then summer we went to my grandmothers and my aunt who lived near the lake. We used to fish, swim, and we ran all over the woods. During my school years it was playing sports. In Ne. they started us in baseball and football when we were in the second grade.

Did you have to overcome any obstacles to get where you are today? I had to overcome a lot of obstacles to get where I am today. I dealt with racism and being called a white guy by other Indians because I made the sports teams and I didn't want to drink or smoke. I still don't. Being on the sports teams prepared me a lot for my military life. I learned a lot about discipline and especially self discipline, and I learned a lot about what I could do and what I couldn't do. Knowing what I couldn't do make me more aware of team work and learning to work together.

Our basketball team was undefeated and our football team had a chance at being number one but we lost the game... I wanted so much to win that game that I played with a torn muscle in my side.

I went to the state track meet in pole vaulting, and I had the school record and a lot of meet records... When I went to college I wanted to go out for sports especially football and track. I had 4 scholarships to go to school. I got into a fight in the hallway of the dorm when some guys were making fun of me being Indian... some friends of mine who were jocks came to my aid. They were friends who wanted me to go out for sports, but I said heck with it and left for the army.

It was in the military that I met my biggest obstacle in life. I was wounded, I lost my leg in Vietnam in Nov 1967. What got me through that was my sports background. I knew if I wanted to walk again I would have to get up and motivate myself to do it. At first I was too aggressive and got into some trouble, but I reached the point where I wanted to go skiing. The doctors were upset and said that I wasn't going to ruin the work they had done on my legs. They practically rebuilt my leg with parts from my other leg; the muscle, bone grafts and skins grafts. So instead of losing both legs I only lost one.

What keeps you strong? My being wounded and having what they call a Near Death Experience made me aware of the spiritual world. I had the choice of either going on to the spirit world or going back to the physical world. Those 4 old men who talked to me told me a lot of things but it was when it got to the 3rd one that I had to make the choice of going on to my ancestors or going back to the physical world and do what I was born to do. I looked back at my men and platoon leader who was calling my name and when I looked back, I was back on the battle field.

Find out next month how Myron faced many obstacles when he returned from the war and how his life changed after his, "Near Death Experience." Think about obstacles you have faced, and how learning to live with them has made you a stronger, and maybe even kinder person. Tell HOČIK'ALA about it, and if we share your story; maybe you will help someone else become strong too!

How many CANGLEGA (means "Medicine Wheel") can you find in HOČIK'ALA?

What does the CANGLEGA drawings mean to you? Write it down in the empty box to the right.

Now can you draw a CANGLEGA that shows us what it means to you?

Send us your drawings or even a photo...it could appear in the next issue.

Send it to: Changing Winds Inc., PO Box 801, Fairfield, CT



Lakota gals celebrating their friendship circle...have fun gals! Love to see more!



Cool hunting skills...Great Job!! Let's see more!!

