



God saw she was getting tired
And a cure was not to be,
So He put His arms around her
And whispered "Come with me."

With tearful eyes
We watched her suffer
And saw her fade away
Although we loved her dearly,
We would not make her stay.

A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard working hands to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.

FAREWELL

When I must leave you
For a little while,
Please do not grieve
And shed wild tears
And hug your sorrow
To you through the years,
But start out bravely
With a gallant smile;
And for my sake
And in my name
Live on and do
All things the same,
Feed not on your loneliness
On empty days,
But fill each waking hour
In useful ways,
Reach out your hand
In comfort and in cheer
And I in turn will comfort you
And hold you near;
And never, never
Be afraid to die,
For I am waiting
For you in the sky!



Eagle Butte, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net

In Loving Memory of

Corrine M. High Elk

Tatanka Ska Wi "White Buffalo Woman"

BORN: May 9, 1933 ~ Thunder Butte, South Dakota
ENTERED SPIRIT WORLD: December 27, 2014 ~ Pierre, South Dakota

CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICES:
10:00 a.m., Monday, January 5, 2015
St. John's Episcopal Church
Eagle Butte, South Dakota

OFFICIATING:
Fr. David Hussey
Rev. Norman Blue Coat

CASKETBEARERS:

James "Butch" Standing Bear	Manual James Swan II
Elwood High Elk	Mark Red Bear
Jacob West	Byron Red Bird
Daniel High Elk	Perry High Elk
Rick Voice	Mike Marrowbone

HONORARY CASKETBEARERS:
West Winds Home Health Care, Indian Health Services,
Pierre Avera Medical Center
All of Corrine's Relatives and Friends

DRUM GROUP:
Wakinyan Maza
All Gospel Singers Welcome

FAVORITE HYMNS:
"How Great Thou Art" "Amazing Grace"
"One Day at a Time"

INTERMENT:
St. Peter's Episcopal Cemetery
Thunder Butte, South Dakota

Born to her parents, Jobe High Elk and Estella (Slides Off) High Elk, Corrine May High Elk was delivered on May 9, 1933 in their home in Thunder Butte, South Dakota. Growing up she learned the Lakota ways of helping her family. In her childhood, she was taught by her mom how to prepare meat and make bread. Cooking and gardening were also important to her and her family, which included six brothers and three sisters, herself included.

Corrine continued this way of life until she began to attend school at the Thunder Butte Day School. She attended the day school until the 4th grade when the school was closed due to it not having a workable kitchen. As a result, Corrine was sent to the Old Cheyenne Agency boarding school. She was in the 9th grade when she returned home for the Christmas break, however she didn't return to the boarding school. Instead, back in Thunder Butte, she picked up where she left off – helping her family with chores such as driving a team and wagon, hauling fire wood and barrels of water.

Corrine met Earlwin Red Bird and to their union, had raised five boys: Gerald High Elk, Carl Red Bird, Perry Kills First, Benedict Red Bird and Earlwin Red Bird, Jr. and two girls: Earleen Red Bird and Tina Red Bird. Earlwin and Corrine established their family in Thunder Butte and Iron Lightning, raising cattle and horses on their ranch.

From 1959 to 1960, Corrine and Earlwin lived at Pan Creek homestead where Earlwin worked on the Scottie Veit ranch, working the cattle and sheep. From 1960 to 1961, they lived on Roy Veit's ranch, where Earlwin worked as a ranch hand. In 1961, they moved back to Thunder Butte where they resided until 1968. During their times of relocating, while Earlwin worked on ranches, Corrine took care of the home and children.

From 1968 to 1972, they lived in Eagle Butte, working as care takers of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Laundromat and bookkeepers for the old-age homes and tribal trailer court rentals. From 1972 to 1979, they moved to a house on Dupree Street, remaining in Eagle Butte until they accepted employment in Pierre, SD.

From 1979 to 1981, the Red Bird family and grandchildren relocated to Pierre, SD where Earlwin and Corrine were employed at the Pierre Indian Learning Center. Earlwin served as a janitor and Corrine enjoyed being a cook.

After 1981, the Red Bird family moved back to Thunder Butte and Earlwin was employed as a janitor at the Dupree School to continue supporting the family. Corrine helped support the family as well by working with programs on the CRST reservation.

Although Corrine began making star quilts in the late 1960s for random requests, she didn't start making them continuously until she was employed by Missouri Breaks. Corrine made beautiful star quilts and as the quality of her work and the beauty of her designs became renown, more requests poured in to the Rapid City Diocese.

Corrine and her sister, Maxine were tasked with making a 25 square foot star quilt, it was used as a backdrop for the inauguration of Bishop Charles Chaput (Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe) in 1988. Then, in early 2012, Corrine retired after completing her last star quilt for her great-grandson, Tommy Tomko's high school graduation.

Corrine resided in Eagle Butte, a location that allowed her to be closer to other family. Her memories of her life throughout her years were the joys of grandchildren. She kept in her heart the ways of her upbringing and guidance which were based on the care and compassion she had for her family and she has said that she would always be there for her family for as long as she lived.

Corrine loved everything of what she knew in life and loved it when long time ago, her family (immediate and extended) would get together, taking a wagon to the Thunder Butte to climb it and then afterwards, having a picnic by a creek. She loved not having electricity or running water because they would do everything together as a family. She loved living in Thunder Butte, it was the place of all her memories of her parents and family members. Corrine has said that she would not change anything about her past.

Corrine loved attending church on Sundays and family gatherings. However, because of her health she had to move closer to a hospital and eventually, her attendance to such gatherings became limited. A few of her last family gatherings were Christmas 2013 at her son, Gerald's house; her brother, Paul and Clara's memorial in May 2014, and her nephew, Leslie Shooter's wake and funeral in September 2014.

Corrine wanted to bring to the family the understanding that family is important, to always be together, to be involved, to help each other whether it be from one single member to family gatherings and to not lose what meant the most to her, caring for life.

Corrine is survived by one brother: Floyd High Elk of Eagle Butte; her children: Gerald High Elk of Dupree, Earleen Red Bird of Fort Thompson Earlwin Red Bird, Jr. of Eagle Butte and Tina Red Bird of Eagle Butte; 19 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and one great, great-grandchild.

Corrine was preceded in death by her parents: Jobe and Estella (Slides Off) High Elk; eight brothers and sisters: Ernest High Elk (from her father's previous marriage), Arthur High Elk, Wesley High Elk, Paul High Elk, Maxine (High Elk) Takes The Gun, Madrick High Elk, Theodore High Elk, and Ilene (High Elk) Red Bear; her husband: Earlwin Red Bird, Sr.; her children: Perry Kills First, Carl Red Bird, and Benedict Red Bird; and her grandchildren: Nicole High Elk, Katelyn Poor Thunder, and Nicole Metcalf.

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