

WAKE SERVICES

Saturday, December 2, 2023
Sunday, December 3, 2023
Margaret Henderson Parish Hall,
Opaskwayak, MB

TRADITIONAL FUNERAL SERVICE

Monday, December 4, 2023
1:00 pm
Church of the Redeemer,
Opaskwayak, MB

INTERMENT

St. Michael and All Angels Cemetery,
Opaskwayak, MB

PALLBEARERS

Meryk Bignell, Oliver Partridge Jr.,
Bodey Bignell, Steven Bignell,
Christopher Bignell,
Owen Nicolychuk, Andrew Bignell,
Scott Bignell.

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

The honorary pallbearers include all
Dennis's cherished family and
friends, past and present powwow
dancers, North Buffalo Singers,
and local musicians
who shared in his friendship
or had the privilege of performing
alongside him.



Hemaue Funeral Home, The Pas, Manitoba

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In Loving Memory
of
**The One Who Sits
by The Rocks
Dennis
Bignell Sr.**
June 6, 1955
November 28, 2023



On Tuesday, November 28, 2023, Dennis Bignell Sr. passed on peacefully at the age of 68 years.

Dennis was born the youngest of ten children to Alex and Rachel Bignell in The Pas, MB at St. Anthony's General Hospital on Monday, June 6, 1955.

In his younger years, Dennis looked up to his older siblings. He wanted to be in a band with his brother Allan and cousin Gary. They created their first band called "Tin Pan Alley" at 16. During that time, he was known as "The Fox", when he met Roma, and they fell in love, married and raised their family of three.

His sister Isabel (Achip) followed the traditional road, which influenced him to follow the traditional road as well. The teachings of Joe and Lily Roan shaped his understanding. He always emphasized the belief of "leading by example," he wanted to change his lifestyle and set a positive precedent for his family through his actions.

Dennis will be remembered as one of the founding members of the Powwow drum group "North Buffalo Cree", alongside Ken Dorion, Wally Young, Larry Dorion, Jonathan Weenusk, Clinton Whitehead (Cronk) and Brian Ballantyne (Bozo). His passion for powwow extended beyond singing, leading him to embrace powwow dancing; he had a deep appreciation for traditional gatherings. His dedication to preserving and sharing Indigenous culture inspired his sons, who followed in his footsteps, dancing proudly in the powwow circle.

Dennis transitioned to a career in the security field. He dedicated years of service to Nacachi Security and later committed two decades of unwavering loyalty to Aseneskak Casino, where he retired. Before retirement, Dennis and his

brother Allan sought to revisit their glory days by rekindling their shared passion for music. They reunited to form "Lone Wolf Theory". Their reunion in music was a heartfelt journey; it was not just a band but a homage to their shared history. Dennis found immense joy and fulfilment in their rehearsals and cherished the creative sanctuary in their newly established studio.

Dennis found happiness in life's simple pleasures, enjoying moments spent camping and travelling alongside his beloved family. He sincerely appreciated spending time with his family, looking forward to every opportunity to gather with them, even in his final days.

Dennis is survived by Roma Bignell; the mother of his children and long-time friend, and his daughter and two sons, who were the heart and soul of his life:

Christina Bignell, Dennis Bignell Jr (Sheryl), and Oliver Bignell (Barb).

Christina's children, Bodey Alexander Bignell, Denice Bignell, Meeka Bignell, Shaundra Bignell-Roberts, and Kevin Sayese, along with Chapan's Issac Bignell and Victoria Kirkness, were a source of great pride for Dennis Sr.

Dennis Jr's children, Jordan Sandy (Faith) and Meryk Bignell, and Chapan's Isaiah Sandy-Munro, Naomi Sandy-Munro, and Natalie Sandy-Munro brought immense happiness and love into Dennis Sr.'s life.

Oliver's children, Fawn Partridge (Daniel) and Oliver Partridge Jr., and Chapan's Parker Partridge, held a special place in Dennis Sr.'s heart.

Dennis was predeceased by his **parents** Alex George and Rachel (nee McKay) Bignell; **sisters** Isabel, Alice and Sara; **brothers** Jonah, Joe, Oliver and Moses; and **nephew** Louie. If we forgot anyone it was not intentional.

