

## ***When Tomorrow Starts Without Me***

*When tomorrow starts without me and I'm not there to see,  
If the sun should rise and find your eyes all filled with tears for me,  
I wish so much that you wouldn't cry, just think of me FINALLY  
At rest. No more worries, no pain, no more getting after any of you,  
For Tunkasila Wakon knew I was tired and He had pity and came after  
My spirit.*

*While thinking of the many things we didn't get to say, I know how  
Much you all love me, as much as I loved you all. And each time that  
You think of me, I know you'll miss me, as much as I will miss you  
All, too. But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand  
I had to leave, it was my time.*

*I thought of all the yesterdays, the good times, as well as the bad, I  
Thought of all the love we shared and all the fun times we had. If I could  
Relive yesterday, just for awhile.... I'd say good-bye and give each and  
Every one of you a hug and kiss and maybe see you all smile.*

*But then I fully realize that this could never be, for emptiness and memories  
Would take the place of me. And when I thought of you all my heart was  
Filled with sorrow, for I knew that I would never see any of you again, but  
In the next world.*

*For today life on earth is past, but it also starts anew. I promise no tomorrow,  
But today will always last and since each day's the same way,  
there's no longing for*

*The past. Though there were times you did some things you knew you shouldn't  
Do, but you have been forgiven and now at last you're free. So won't you take  
My hand and share with me the feeling now that... I'm finally at rest.*

*So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're apart, for every time you  
Think of me, I'll be right here in your HEART!! I LOVE YOU ALL DEARLY  
JUST REMEMBER THE THINGS I DIDN'T LIKE ABOUT YOUR LIFE  
STYLES AND STRIVE FOR THE BETTERMENT OF YOUR LIVES.*

*MAY TUNKASILA WAKON TONKA WATCH OVER YOU ALL ALWAYS.*

*Celebrating the life of*

# **Beatrice Maxine Fleury-Whiting**

*May 28, 1939 ~ January 24, 2021*

## **Wake Services**

*St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
Fort Thompson, SD  
Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
7:00 p.m.*

## **Funeral Service**

*St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
Fort Thompson, SD  
Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
10:00 a.m.*

## **Officiating**

*Father Christianus Hendrick, SCJ  
Deacon Steve McLaughlin  
Sister Charles Palm*

## **Casketbearers**

<i>Todd Jr.</i>	<i>Kyle</i>
<i>Kevin</i>	<i>Tyrell</i>
<i>Gage</i>	<i>Will Jr.</i>

## **Honorary Bearers**

<i>Patty Ross</i>	<i>Pauline Middletent</i>
<i>Phyllis Comes Flying</i>	<i>Roland St. John</i>
<i>Charlotte Rockwood</i>	<i>Kitty Menzie</i>
<i>Carolyn House</i>	

## **Interment**

*All Nation's Cemetery  
Crow Creek, SD*

**Arrangements By:** *Hickey Funeral Home, Chamberlain, SD*

## *Celebrating the Life Of*

I have chosen to write up my own obituary, so my family will not have this responsibility. I was born to David and Rosebelle Red Day Fleury on May 28, 1939. I was one of eight children. There was Carolyn, Martha, Sylvia, David Jr., Bernard, Myra, and Margaret. Back in the day, we experienced some very hard times. I can remember the snow and how much we got each winter. The snow drifts were well over 5-6 feet high in some places. We had an outhouse and when we walked out the back door, our back steps were over 4-5 feet off the ground, and we could actually walk right on the snow drifts to the outhouse. That is how high the snow drifts were. (How cool was that?) Our dad was a very good hunter and during the winter, summer and fall months he always went out hunting. He brought home plenty of pheasants, rabbits, geese, and deer, so we had plenty of wild game to eat. Back in the day, wild game was very good to eat and SAFE. Pesticide was not a worry, as it is now. I firmly believe this is the reason now that we have so many people getting cancer.... the chemicals. It is used a lot more now by our farmers now.

I attended grade school at old Ft. Thompson from grades 1<sup>st</sup>- through 8<sup>th</sup>. I attended 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Pukwana High School, and I became a cheerleader there. Back in the day, we had no bus to take us there, so Robert "Bumpy" McGhee drove us to school in his grandpa's car. There was him, Vynas "Bergie" Red Hail, Rosalind Crow, and me. We did not have any hot meal offered to us, so if we had a nickel, dime or quarter, we had to walk four-five blocks downtown to old Jones Grocery store and have a candy bar, chips, and pop, if we had enough to pay for it. If you did not eat breakfast that morning, you can imagine how hungry we were at noon time! During the winter months, when the weather got bad and could make it home, Della "Ma" McGhee Lytle and Alfred "Pa" Lytle took us in for the night, even though they had 3-4 kids of their own, they made room for us too. We experienced very hard times during our school days. Now days, all the kids have it very easy! The bus comes right to their doors, when we used to have to walk half a mile to the road and believe me this was very hard during the winter months! We just about froze just walking up to the road. Back then the girls did not wear jeans (like they do today), we had to wear dresses with long cotton stockings! So much has changed since we went to school, it is so much easier for all the kids and more comfortable compared to back in the day.

My 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades, I attended Gann Valley High School. There I played basketball and set a record for the little bitty town averaging 19 points a game. My senior year, I started school there, but times were very hard (funds), so I decided to drop out of school. I could not afford a class ring or class pictures and such, so I figured it was best to just quit. My folks could not afford these things for me. Years later, I did get my GED and started working. I started working at the age of 15 years old. Eileen "Pidgy" Wells wanted to work in Chamberlain, so her grandma, Minnie Wells, said she would pay for our rent if we wanted to work. Pidgy asked me to go job hunting and stay with her, so we began our working career. We both worked in the Kulm Laundry, starting wage back then was 75 cents an hour, but boy we thought we were up town with \$30 a week! But at least we worked, now days there are not very many younger generations are interested in working, just lay back and do drugs or alcohol, while their girlfriends do the work. Sad situation! I always say to my grandkids, "Why can't you guys operate with clear minds, why do you have to be high?". I believe the parents are responsible for this to happen in the first place. We, as parents, are role models for our children, what we do and teach is what they absorb and continue on.

I have 29 grandchildren and many great grandchildren whom I love very much. I try and teach my grandkids about their traditional spiritual ways of life. I have experienced some very awesome miracles through the Chanupa (Pipe) and my way of life. The Indian way will go with me to my grave. We operated a youth camp for kids every summer for 15 years, "All Nation's Youth Camp". We introduced them to the Inpi (sweat lodge ceremony), making prayers ties, the colors they represent. Our culture is diminishing fast and we are trying to keep it afloat.

I was married to Emery Loudner and from this marriage I had one son, Todd. I lived with Bernard Drapeau and we had three children, Keith, Royce and LaVoyce. Then I married Seth Ed Whiting, from this marriage we had two children, Dawn and Seth Jr.

Mitakuye Oyasin



**Beatrice Maxine Fleury-Whiting**

1939 ~ 2021