

**BORN:**

August 4, 1918

BIRTHPLACE:

Near Fort McPherson

PARENTS:

Peter Vittrekwa (also known as Peter Neyando) and Mary Shananzhaa

GWICH'IN:

Teet'it Gwich'in

MARRIED:

Peter Alexie in July 1941 in Aklavik (d); William Elias in Fort McPherson

CHILDREN:

Effie, Abe, Louisa, Rosie (adopted)

dai' nits'oots'at gwitr'it t'agwah'u gik'yaanjik goodhau gwunli' ts'at k'e'dimilka' ants'at adhoh ahshu geenjit yunji'gwichil'eh nilu.

Au t'ee Lydia Peter yuunjik ts'at yeenji' Teet'it nji' dachan tat kauk'it tr'igwihtsaih. Shik dachan tat gugweech'in'. "Ezhik dai' gwiyaan shoh uli' ihlak too gaduunjishidhat kwaa," Lydia ahnuu. Khai dai' dinjik leu nidhizru eenjit ts'at shun dai' luk chan goonlu tr'it'u ts'at tr'ahgau eenjit. March ts'at June nanh gwits'at tthak dzan eenjit naazri' ts'at veenjit khyah dhudilih au t'ee chan July nanh yeedi' Aklavik veenidhudi'oh. August nanh chan nakhwakauk'it gwits'ee chidhuda'oo ts'at March nanh gwits'at gwudich'in'.

Peter vakwaa t'ee chan Lydia khai leu adagwidaanda' eenjit gwunt'oh gwitr'it t'agwah'in' ditr'uinin kat duk'yahju eenjit. Teet'it Zeh gwizhit hostel danh, Hudson's Bay Company ts'at RCMP kat hah tthak eenjit gwitr'it t'agwah'in'.

Lydia eenjit zrit diginjik tth'aih veenjit gwijunchu nilu ants'at yeendoo ji' k'eejit kat guginjik nagigiheekhyah yuundhan nuh. "Shakai' ts'at shu nekhweginjik guidihe' ts'at nekhwetruinin kat hah chan. Diginjik zraih ts'at gindikhu duizheh gwizhit. Duuleh au k'eejit kat guu'anjoo kat guuveenohjah ji', gwuzi uudhilch'ei ts'at adai' gwanoo gugwandak ts'at guuk'uit'uu tagoodhat ts'at nekhwek'yuu gik'agahaandal. Nekhweginjik goots'at gindikhu au t'ee nahgwan ji' nekhwek'yuu ts'at nekhweginjik gahgiheedandaih."

Lydia Elias **LYDIA (VITREKWA/VANELTSI/ NEYANDO) ALEXIE/ELIAS**

Tr'uinin nilu dai', Lydia veek'au k'ughe' duk'ayahthat, Annie Vaneltsi ts'at vakai' William Vaneltsi hah. "Tthak yi'eenji' khaunju Mayo danh gwits'at ts'at Dawson gwits'at teenjr dahthee gwits'at, ezhik dai' nankak tthak gwa'an dinju kat nagahdadal. Nijin gwa'an natr'ihdinjik tthak sheek'au duyah nahadik. Duuyeh shehdanh natr'ihdinjik. Lagatsal k'it vik'ih chidhik," Lydia ganadhandau ahnuh. "Nihk'yuu natr'ahdadal ts'at adatr'agwidaandau gahshandau ts'at

nijin gwa'an gwudandai' ts'at tthak ganalndau," juu nuh.

Vaghau goonlu kwaa guugaa zrit gwunt'oh gwitr'it t'agwah'u geenjit gik'yaanjik. Chitau gwitr'it t'agwah'u too troo t'ii, duizheh gwits'ee nahahchyah ts'at gi'dimuyyaa ehkhee natr'uulu juu gwik'it t'eedi'in'. Lydia zrit geetak drin tthak troo hah gichyah ganalndau nuh.

Gwat Lydia duuyeh school nidhizhu guugaa zrit izhuu kat gat'oonahatan uudhilch'ei ts'at aachin a'ii. Oonoo