



Renie Stewart

RENIE (KUNNIZZIE) STEWART

VAGÒONLII DRIN: Vàdzaih Zrìr' 16, 1928

NIJÌN VAGÒONLIH: Teet'it Zheh

VIYÙUGHWAN KAT: Laura ts'at Ben Kunnizzi

Renie chan ts'at dachaa kat hàh, Thomas, Ben, George ts'at John gehkhee ts'at Effie Jane ts'at Margaret kat hàh digiyùughwan kat k'iighe' diik'agâhnjik, Laura ts'at Ben Kunnizzi kat hàh. Nìch'it zhuu nilii dàì' dahanh nìniindhath aii geenjit school ekhè' gogoonuu ts'at dìtì' eevanh tr'iinin kat gok'ànathii geenjit ts'at tr'iniinjik. Geenjit giitr'ijh'ee gwàt jùk gweendò tr'iinin kat school gwizhìt t'ohch'uu goovahnuu jidii veenjìt gòonlii kwaa geenjit akòo didiinu'. "Shitr'iinin kat shìk goots'at ginikhkii ts'at school gwizhìt t'ohch'uu geenjit gwiinzii gwàt tth'aih akòo t'agidi'in geenjit diinjishizhit."

1948 dàì' t'at, Renie zrit didinjii heelyaa nihkhah ginii'oo nuh ts'at aii t'ee 1950 dàì' vatr'òonjik. Nihkhàgo-othìnjik t'ee, Renie ts'at didinjii hàh dìtsii ts'at dìtsuu hàh agì'al t'ee aii khàhts'at atr'aadzoo gwits'at nàginii'oh. Nihkhàh zrit Renie ts'at didinyâhch'ì' hàh tr'iinin ihâok gwijùutin ts'at neekaii gidilii geedi'ì', neekanh kat zrit gootr'òonjik. Digitr'iinin kat diik'agâhthat dàì', yì'eenjì' Esau Njik gitr'âhnuu gw'àn gogweech'in' ts'at âôô hàh ezhik dàì' gwiinzii goovàh gòonlii ganadhindhaih. Jùk gweendò zrit, Renie t'at chan "vicheii 13 gòo 14 gidilii", gwiinzii goovàhshàndaii kwaa ahnuu. Jùk

VÌTSII TS'ÀT VÌTSUU: Joseph ts'at Mary Jane Kunnizzi hàh (Viti' ts'aii), Benjamin ts'at Lena Simon hàh (Vahanh ts'aii)

GWICH'IN: Teet'it Gwich'in

VATR'ÒONJIK: Frank Stewart và-zhii, Aklavik gwizhìt 1950 dàì'

VITR'IININ KAT: Johnny (d), Benny, Sandy, Mary Rose, Kenny (d), Bruce, Jimmy (d), Frank (d), Gladys (vatr'òonjik), Jimmy, Donna, Laurie, Wanda (vatr'òonjik)



gweendò aii k'eejit kat ts'at school gwizhìt t'ohch'uu ts'at nits'oo goovàh dàgòonch'uu geenjit shoh ohâii goovahnuu geenjit t'inuh. "Nits'oo shàh tàgòodhat ts'at jùk gweendò nits'oo goovàh dàgòonch'uu geenjit shoh giinlii jì' geenjit diinjishizhit."



Renie was raised by her parents Laura and Ben Kunnizzie in Fort McPherson along with her four brothers: Thomas, Ben, George and John and her two sisters: Effie-Jane and Margaret. Renie's mother passed away while Renie was still a child and as a result had to quit school in order to help her father. She regrets not being able to go to school and advises children today to stay in school as it was a privilege she didn't have. "I always tell my grandchildren how lucky they are to be able to go through their schooling and I hope they keep it up."

In 1948, Renie met her husband-to-be and they married in 1950. After their wedding procession, Renie and her husband enjoyed a lunch with her new father-in-law John Joseph and his wife, followed by a dance in the evening. Together, Renie and her husband

BORN: October 16, 1928

BIRTHPLACE: Fort McPherson

PARENTS: Laura and Ben Kunnizzie

GRANDPARENTS: Joseph and Mary Jane Kunnizzie (Pateranl) Benjamin Kendi and Lena Simon (Maternal)

GWICH'IN: Teet'it Gwich'in

MARRIED: Frank Stewart in Aklavik in 1950

CHILDREN: Johnny (d), Benny, Sandy, Mary-Rose, Kenny (d), Bruce, Jimmy (d), Frank (d), Gladys (adopted), Jimmy, Donna, Laurie, Wanda (adopted)

had 12 children, two of whom were adopted. While raising her children, Renie remembers living far out at the Esau River with her in-laws, those were some of the fondest memories she has when it comes to living out on the land.

Today, Renie has "About thirteen or fourteen grandchildren," it's hard to keep track. Her message for the youth of today, aside from staying in school, would simply be a reminder of how fortunate they are. "I would tell them about the kind of life I had, and that they're incredibly lucky to have a better life than mine."