



Charlie Stewart

NIJÙK DÀI' VAGÒONLII: Echee Zrì' 12, 1931 dài'

NIJÌN DANH VAGÒONLII: Aklavik danh

VIYÙUGHWAN KAT: Andrew ts'at Martha Stewart (nee: Alexie)

GWÌCH'IN: Ehdítat Gwìch'in

VITR'IININ KAT: Tr'iinin dí'u kwaa

BORN: March 12, 1931

BIRTHPLACE: Aklavik, NT

PARENTS: Andrew and Martha Stewart

GWICH'IN: Ehdítat Gwìch'in

MARRIED: no

CHILDREN: none



Charlie zrit tr'iinin kat ihłok gwijùutin ts'at neekaii gootat ts'at t'iinch'uh. Aklavik gwizhìt danh vagòonlii ts'at Andrew ts'at Martha Stewart googii t'iinch'uh. Charlie vahanh akòo t'inuu Alexie zhehk'oo gootat diik'iindhat eenjit gwaandak ganadhindaii, viti' Andrew zrit vidree'oonatsoo kat eenjit gwitr'it t'agwah'in' khaiinjii nagwidàdhat neekok gwijùutin ànts'at tthak eenjit akòo t'èedi'in'. "Ezhik dài' zrit diidrihdòk ts'ik niint'aii k'iighe' leii kat gokwàa," aii geenjit duulèh leii kat chan gokwaa. Dachantat diik'iidhat zrinuh. "Aa, gwiinzii gwiidàndaii," ganadhindaii, "gwiinzii diiyàh gòonlii ts'at tsinehdanh gwiinli'."

Charlie t'at gadhidii eenjit nìinji'adhat kwaa. Tr'iinin diik'iidhat kwaa guugaa t'at dakhao gòo duu kat diik'agijii geenjit ts'at tr'iinjik akòo ts'at ezhuu kat ts'at giinhè' khyàh t'agahah'yaa geenjit agwaandak. Sryuh Choo Njik danh John Carmichael hàh khyàh dhidlii, kaiik'it gwiinlit gwanah'in ts'at zhehk'oo leii diginiivyah zeh gwidhoh t'angiinch'uu goovanaandaii zrinuh. "Ezhik dài' gwànoo, aii gwik'it gwiidàndaii, jùunuh, "nankak jùughwal."

Digiyùughwàn kat iisrits'at veenjit gòonlih, shik gook'it viiniindhan. "Than' gwitr'it t'agwà'in', nakhwayùughwàn kat shòh goodhàatsàii,

łq̄q̄ hàh gijiidat'aih," Charlie ahnuh. Dachantat agòondài nahaazhii geenjit gwik'yinjizhìt ts'at jùk drin tth'aih hee vat'ajanhch'uh. Anjòo kat dànnoo shik uudhilch'eii. Adik'anahtii giik'yàanjik, shih kwaa jì', akòots'at khaii gwits'at nagweedadhaa gwinjik dàheedi'yaa tthak àhdàndaih.

Charlie Stewart came from a family of twelve. Charlie was born in Aklavik, NWT, on March 12, 1931 to Andrew and Martha Stewart. Charlie remembers hearing that his mother Martha was adopted into the Alexie family as a young girl, and his father, Andrew, worked for the RCMP for over twenty years. "In those days, many people died from tuberculosis," explains Charlie to shed light on why he doesn't specifically remember the names of all of his siblings. Charlie was raised in the bush. "Oh, we lived good," he recalls "it was nice and peaceful."

Marriage wasn't a part of Charlie's destiny. Although he never had children or a family of his own, he did help raise his own siblings and encountered many other families throughout his adult life on trapping excursions. When trapping with John Carmichael at Anderson River,

Charlie remembers seeing all different kinds of camps there, large families living in teepees. "That's how we lived in those days" he says "quiet country."

His parents were his inspiration, his mentors. "We work on our own, and make our parents happy by trying our best" said Charlie. He believes in the inherent healing properties of natural medicines and uses them even today. The experience and foresight of elders were invaluable to Charlie growing up. He learned how to look after himself, what to do if he was ever short of meat, and how to prepare for and endure the long winter months.