



# Therese Remy Sawyer

**NIJÙK DEI' VAGÒONLÌH:** Achan Khyah Nat'uinlih Zrèe' 7, 1935

**NIJÌN VAGÒONLÌH:** Nìchitsii Dìninlee, uudyè' Nàgwìchoonjik gwìdye'

Therese, Terry voozri' k'iighe' leii vâhdandâii, yi'eenji' Tsiigehnjik gwinji' dachantat diik'iidhat. Juudin kat gwagi-inkhii zrit tthak jùk at'at nekhweh'at gichuujil, gwât leii kat chan tth'aih gwiinzii gwaniinji'adhat. Terry zrit vichyidh gòo veejii nat chan ihlogwinli' gidilii gwât jùk gweendoo Mary Alice zraih hàh t'iinch'uh. K'eejit nilii guuzhik vitsii ts'at vitsuu kat Paul ts'at Camilla Niditchie vatr'oonjik ts'at gwah t'iinch'uu, vaghàii nihk'iitik gwats'at tthak t'ee gè'tr'onahtan gwats'at chuuzhee. K'anadik t'ee Tsiigehnjik gwinji' nachidhizhee. Bernard viteetshik danh gwa'an t'iinch'uu dei' ganadhindâii.

Tr'oochit dei' yi'eenji' Nagwìchoonjik gwats'at chuuzhee ts'at ezhik Fort Simpson gwa'an Leo Norwegian vak'adadhizhee ts'at vatr'oonjik. Yeh'at chuuzhee t'ee than' digitr'iinin guk'anahtii vagogoontree gwat akoo gijiint'eih. Eii t'ee chan Thomas Sawyer vaazhii vak'adadhizhee ts'at vatr'oonjik, gwat niinzhuk t'agiinch'uu kwaa t'ee adanh vakwaa 2002 dei'.

Juudin iisrits'at niinji'adhat goodahkat t'at, "Shamamaa, gwiint'oh gwitr'it t'agwaa'in' vanalndâii ts'at shatr'ahnuu akòots'at shòh hàh akòo t'eedi'in'!" Nits'òots'at dahanh shih hàh dha'aii ganadhindâih. K'eejit nilii guuzhik

**PARENTS:** John Ramy ts'at Eliza Niditchie

**GWÌCH'IN:** Gwichyàh Gwich'in

**VATR'ÒONJIK:** Leo Norwegian (1st husband), Thomas Sawyer (2nd husband)

**CHILDREN:** Pearl, Karen (d.), Martina, Steven (d.), Francine, Duane (d.), Esther (d.), Carol, Joey

**BORN:** November 7, 1935

**BIRTHPLACE:** Big Rock, on the East Mackenzie River channel

**PARENTS:** John Ramy and Eliza Niditchie

**GWÌCH'IN:** Gwichyah Gwich'in

**MARRIED:** Leo Norwegian (1st husband), Thomas Sawyer (2nd husband)

**CHILDREN:** Pearl, Karen (d.), Martina, Steven (d.), Francine, Duane (d.), Esther (d.), Carol, Joeyand Sharla

nits'òots'at k'e'jàhkai' chan gayuunilty-inh geenjit. Jùk at'at tth'aih Terry nits'òots'at dahanh k'it k'e'jàhkai' geenjit akòo t'idi'ii ànts'at leii giyahdandâii geenjit shòh akòo t'idi'ii.

Therese, or Terry is she is commonly called, spent much of her early childhood out on the land mainly up the Arctic Red River. Many of the people she recalls from then have all passed on and she is left with many special memories.

Terry had five siblings but today she has only Mary Alice left with her. At an early age, Terry was adopted by her grandparents, Paul and Camilla Niditchie but went to school when she was six years old in Aklavik. Upon returning to Tsiigehtchic (Arctic Red River) in her teenage years, Terry moved back onto the land with her grandparents as she had lost her mother at a young age and was unable to look after her alone. Much of her memoirs were of time spent up the Red River at Bernard's Creek.

Terry met and married Leo Norwegian at an early age and together had many children of whom only a few are left

today. After divorcing Leo in the early seventies, Terry continued to provide for her children until they were able to go on their own. Later on in life Terry met and married Thomas Sawyer and share many good memories until his untimely death in 2002.

When asked about who inspired her Terry's remarks were, "It was my mama, because she worked so hard and enjoyed it." She recalls the method in which her mother prepared different types of food out on the land. Terry was taught how to sew at an early age as well. Today, Terry carries on her mother's style of sewing to others in her community.