



DAVAAZHII: Ellen Gordon

VAGOONLII DRIN:

January 1, 1933

VIYÙUGHWÀN KAT: Abraham  
ts'at Sarah Francis kat hàh

VAKAI': Walter Gordon (d.)

VITR'IININ KAT:

Denny ts'at Clayton kat hàh



BORN: January 1, 1933

MARRIED: Walter Gordon (d.)

PARENTS: Abraham and  
Sarah Francis

CHILDREN: Denny and  
Clayton (adopted)



dinjik dhoh tr'ahthoh, k'ajjikai' k'ajhakai' ts'at tsee dhoh lei ahshih.

Nits'oo nakhwa'anjoo' kat gugwaa'e', uu'ok dachan tat tr'igwich'in, adigwidaandaii agigwil'aih. Juk gwinoo, k'eejit kat nits'oo nanh kak gugweheech'in gahgidindaih kwah. Nits'oo vakagwidhaa'aii gahgidindaih ji, gwik'iinjishit. Yeenoo nagwidadhat ijich'ii datthak gehsriinagahaandal gwiheezah.

Ellen was born in Fort McPherson on January 1, 1933. Her parents were Abraham and Sarah Francis (Sintenilhyin). Her maternal grandparents were William Sintenilhyin (Shint'eh Nil'in) and Annie Vaneltsi (Atl'oh Ts'aii) and her paternal grandparents were Francis Choo Sintlouchi (Shint'l'aochih) and Julia Shaday (Shadee). Her siblings were Annie Francis (d), Sarah Jane Firth (d), Alfred Francis (d) and Peter Francis.

Ellen was brought up on the land around Rock River, Yukon and around the Mackenzie Delta. As a young girl she helped her parents and this is how they learned how to live in the bush like setting fishnets and rabbits snares in the fall. During the summer they would leave their camp early in the morning to pick berries and come back late at night. In those days people had dogs to travel and get wood and this was their only way of transportation. They looked after their dogs very well.

In 1957 Ellen married Walter Gordon in Fort McPherson and together they adopted two boys, Denny and Clayton. Ellen was a wife and mother to her family and worked in various places to bring income for her family. Today Ellen is elderly and due to her health, she is unable to go on the land. Ellen remembers the craft of scraping moose hides as well as sewing for her family. She tanned many beaver hides in her lifetime.

Ellen says when she was growing up they had to learn how to live on the land and do things for themselves. Today young people wouldn't know what to do if they lived on the land. She hopes that they would grasp that along with their education as we are not sure what the future holds for us and we must be prepared.

## *Ellen Gordon (Francis)*

Ellen, Teetl'it Zheh, Videetoh Goojiidhat, ihlak, 1933 dai' vigoonlii. Viyohghwan t'at Abraham ts'at Sarah Francis (nee Sintenilhyin) iinli'. Vah-anh ts'aii viyohghwan t'at William Sintenilhyin (Shint'eh Nil'in) ts'at Annie Vaneltsi (Atl'oh Ts'aii). Viti' ts'aii viyohghwan t'at Francis Choo Sintlouchi (Shint'l'aochih) ts'at Julie Shaday (Shadee). Veejii t'at Annie Francis (d.) ts'at Sarah Jane Firth (d). Voond-ee t'at Alfred Francis (d) ts'at Peter Francis.

Chii Deetak, Yukon ts'at Ehdiitat gwa'an adigwidaandaii.

K'eejit nilii gwits'at viyohghwan, dachan tat guuts'at tr'iinjii ts'at akoo ts'an ts'at gugwaa'e'. Khaiints'an chihyah chinitchuh, geh eenjit gyah di'dhit'ih. Viyohghwan, khyah niniilih hah guuts'at tr'iniinjih. Shin dai' vanh dai' jak naatsii ts'at too goo'aii uu'ee

neendijil. Kwan' ts'at vakatr'ahch'uu srugoonch'uu. Geetak niizhit ts'at jak deek'it neetr'aazhik, troo uu'ee nigijnjil, laii tr'adaach'uu, gwiinzii guuk'aganahtih.

Kharii 1957 Ellen, Walter Gordon, Teetl'it Zheh danh nihligoodinjik. Tshyaa neekanh Denny ts'at Clayton gii guunt'atr'ahchii. Gwa'at ts'at gwahanh nilii ts'at nifinehch'ii hah gwitr'it t'ah'ih. Ehdii Tat danh, All Saints Anglican ge'troonahtan zhit iindi'. Ets'ik geh'an niizhuk azhik gwizhit t'iinch'u' kwaa. Ehdii Tat, Ets'ik Zheh gwizhit srii nanh t'anhshuk vik'atr'anahtii. Juk gwinoo viyohghwan giyuuniit'in k'iighe' gwiinzii nakhwo k'yuu giinkhii. Nits'oo anjoo' kat gugwaa'e' gwik'inaanjik. Juk gweenoo, anjoo' nilii ts'at vitthaii tat gwiinzii t'iinch'uh kwaa geh'an uu'ok dachan tat gwich'in kwah. Nits'oo