



Renie Martin

VAGÒONLII: Divii Zrìr' 21, 1929

NIJÌN VAGÒONLII: Dawson, YT
gwìdì' (Moosehide danh)

VIYÙUGHWÀN KAT: John, Bella
Martin kat hàh

VÌTSII TS'ÀT VÌTSUU: Joseph ts'at
Mary Jane Kunnizzi (vahanh ts'aii),
Martin Sha'anahkhyaa' ts'at Jane
Chijalthoh

GWICH'IN: Teetl'it Gwich'in

BORN: November 21, 1929

BIRTHPLACE: near Dawson (at Moose
side)

PARENTS: John and Bella Martin

GRANDPARENTS: Joseph and Mary Jane
Kunnizzie (maternal), Martin Sha-un-
Nakhya and Jane Chijulthoo. (Paternal)

GWICH'IN: Teetl'it Gwich'in



Nìch'it zhuu nìlì dàì', Renie chan
ts'at vachaa kat ts'at vijùu kat hàh
tthak, dıgıyùughwàn kat k'ìghe'
duik'agahthat, yee'ohts'aii Mayo
chan ts'at Ross River gwà'àn hee
ahnuh. Dıgıtı' hàh dzan nılzrı' ts'at
huk kàageedı'n' ts'at uutsık tr'ahtsı
chan gwınzıı vanadhındaih nuh.
Inıhık gwà'àn gogwındai' zrı nuh
gwàt ıhłat dàì' agadanh ts'at ızhuu
kat ddhah toh nagahdadał ts'at
gweenoo Teetl'it Njik gıtr'ahnıu
gwıdì' nagoojıl gwınzıı ganadhındaih
nuh. Ezhık dàì' tr'oochıt aadrı kành
gwanah'ıı zrı nuh. "Gwanàa'ıh
dàì', yaazhıt, zheh gwich'yàa
gwınyah'ıı!" jüu shıjüu vahnuu ts'at
kwaat'at zheedıdınaadlok guuzhık
gah'ıdandaih kwaa, aı gwàts'at chan
shoo'ıı t'at nıjüü dee aadrı kành
gwanàa'ıh dàì' shadloo dajınlık.

Renie ts'at dızhehk'oo hàh nıhkhan
doo'ıı hàh gogwındai', dzan eenjıt
khyàh nagınnınlı ts'at sreendıt
dàì' huk kàageedı'n' vanadhındaih
nuh. Vaghàn ıhłok gwıjüütın dàì'
dıjüu hàh tr'oochıt zrah school
gwats'at chıdhıdà'oh ganalndai
nuh. Ezhık dàì' yeedı' Aklavık
gwızhıt gogwındaih dàì' jüu gwık'ıt
tagwadhat.

Nagwıdàdhat gwınllet goozhık,

Renie zrı gwıtr'ıt nıhłnehch'ı'
ınıhık gwà'àn t'agwah'ın'. Slım
Semmler vāazhıı zrı Ookàt Zheh
eedı'n' dàì' dıneht'eh k'ānahtıı
t'eedı'n' ts'at aı t'ee zrı Sewing
Centre Inuvık gwızhıt danh parka
k'e'tr'ıjähkaiıh dàì' eevanh chüuzhıı
ts'at gwıtr'ıt t'agwah'ın'. Geetāk hee
dızheh gwızhıt chan k'e'jahkai' chan
nuh. "Nınzhük aı gwızhıt gwıtr'ıt
t'agwah'ın' ts'at pargıı aköo dıııch'ıı
k'e'dınałkai', jüu aköo t'ıshı'ın'!", nuh
t'ınuh.



As a child, Renie and her five siblings
were raised by her parents, John
and Bella Martin in a place called
Ross River. Hunting for muskrat
alongside her father, fishing and
making dryfish with the catch of the
day are some of the things that Renie
remembers enjoying throughout
her childhood. Renie lived in
several different places growing
up. She remembers her family and
numerous other families travelling
over the mountains with dogsleds on
their way to Mayo. This was the first
time she had ever seen a fish house.
"I said, 'Ha! Look at that ragged

house!'" she laughs at her naivety at
the time, and from that point on, she
was teased by her uncle whenever
they saw a fish house.

Renie and her family would often
stay with her uncle, trapping
muskrat and fishing throughout the
spring. When Renie was 10-years-
old she remembers going to school
for the very first time with her sister.
After spending 8 years in Mayo,
Renie and her siblings went to live
with their mother.

Over the years, Renie has had many
different job opportunities. She
remembers working for Semmlers
as a clerk and taking care of all the
bookkeeping. She also remembers
working for a sewing centre where
she would make parkas. Renie would
even sew at home, "I worked there
for a long time," she says, "Making
parkas, that's what I did!"