

# Remember them

A former teacher who became a good friend to me died recently. His death occurred in an accident on a far away road. And, although he had lived a long and full life he still had much to give. He died too soon.

In a short news story on the accident, he was said to be a teacher and a former reporter. To me and many of my former fellow students he was much more than that.

He was a man, an elder if you will, who taught many, many young people their craft. His teaching came in a gentle manner. He never really *told*. He taught by doing and discussing and explaining.

I can remember him sitting behind a desk — his hunting area — and talking about the subject at hand, always with a gentle smile on his face.

His gift of learning to me was that he never took events more seriously than they warranted. He showed the relative importance of things.

He prompted me to pursue my life's course and I have usually been pleased at my choice. And, if I have achieved any honor in my life's work I was also glad because I feel it reflected somewhat on his guidance and teachings. I don't know if he was proud of what I have become but I hope so.

I travelled back to my family home recently to visit family and friends and, for the first time on a visit home, I did not take the time to visit my old friend and teacher.

I could do it next year, I thought as I coped with caring for a newborn and four-year-old child.

But, less than a month later my old friend and teacher is dead. Even in death I have learned from him.

Our Elders, our parents, our friends, and our teachers have given us very much. They have tried to guide us and befriend us. They are the people who have made us what we are today.

It is often difficult for people to say thank you, especially for the gift of knowledge and of moral fibre.

We thank our Elders by living as they would have wanted us to live but perhaps we should also let them know what they mean to us.

Della Keats, Arnold Brower Sr., Andrew Isaac, Paul Tiulana, Pauline Harvey, Belle Herbert, Emily Ivanoff Brown — our Elders living and dead have shown us much even if we have not spent much time with them.

We should show and tell them of our gratitude for their contribution to our lives.

---

## Galena schools impressive

To the Editor:

I had the privilege on May 17, 1983 to be the commencement speaker for the graduating seniors of Galena High School.

I was most impressed by the absence of graffiti, the lack of defacement of school property and the cleanliness of the school both inside and outside of the facility. In all its appearance, this impressed me as being an example of a community dedicated to education with a strong and hard working school board.

The community, the staff, administrators and all of the

students (grade school and high school) need to be given recognition for the pride they have for their school, thus my reason for writing.

I wonder if it would be possible for the *Tundra Times* to feature this community, money and time permitting, for us the readers of the *Tundra Times* to understand the secret to their approach to education to make it a place of learning with results?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Agnes I. Harrison