



Dixon Palmer

September 20, 1920 - March 3, 2011

Dixon Palmer, 90, life time native of Anadarko, Oklahoma, was called home by the Lord on Thursday, March 3, 2011 at his home with his family who loved him dearly by his side. He was born September 20, 1920 to William and Clara (Mopope) Palmer in Anadarko, Oklahoma. He attended grammar school in Washita, Oklahoma and graduated from Saint Patrick's Mission School, Anadarko, Oklahoma in 1938. He was of Kiowa and Choctaw Indian descent. He enlisted in the United States Army and was proud to be a Native American Veteran. He served 511 days in combat in Europe as a member of the 45th division during WW11. While in the Army and stationed in Massachusetts, Palmer formed a dance group which presented performances to groups all over the East Coast, once performing before a group of 90,000 spectators at an Eastern racetrack. He was also at work, making and selling warbonnets and received many honors. He met and married the love of his life, Chlotiea Peacher in October of 1945 in Winfield, Kansas, from this union was born two children, Randy and Linda. His Indian name was TSAIN-SAY-HAY, "Blue Hail". Dixon's talents as an artist, were war dance performer and feather worker are well established and his cultural achievements during his lifetime comprise an impressive and memorable record. He began to perform the ceremonial dances of his people, learning to make the feather costumes and accessories required for these performances. Not only did Palmer learn to make feather dance bustles, he also made shields, leggings and vests. However his ultimate arts and crafts specialty was to be the creation of magnificent feather

warbonnets. For eighteen years, from 1955 to 1973, Palmer worked as Head Guide and later, Assistant Manager at Indian City USA, a highly successful tourist attraction in Anadarko. Showing his extreme versatility, Palmer took over the management of Indian City Pottery for a time, helping to increase production and develop new designs. He was an officer of the Kiowa TON-KON-GAH Black Leggings Warrior Society and member for 52 years. He gave his first professional dance performance at age 12, traveling with a troupe of Kiowa dancers to the Inter-Tribal Ceremonials in Gallup, New Mexico. Since 1932, he has competed in every National War Dance Championship contest presented during the American Indian Exposition held in Anadarko, Oklahoma. In 1937, at age 17, Palmer won the national title. He won the title again in 1945 and placed second in 1946. In 1970, he placed fourth and in 1971, he was among the top six finalists. He was a loyal supporter of the Exposition and said he just wanted to "keep the young guys on their toes." As a performer and leader of Indian dance troupes, he was performing all over the United States. In 1957, in honor of the 50th anniversary of Oklahoma statehood, Palmer was invited to New York to appear on Dave Garroway's television program. Palmer has also appeared on other national television shows including the Today Show, Tonight Show, Captain Kangaroo and Discovery. He has played "bit parts" in several motion pictures including "Around the World IN 80 DAYS," "Indian Paint," and "Uprising of the Comanches." Perhaps, Palmer's most memorable experience came in 1972 when he was employed to portray two characters in a television documentary filmed in Oklahoma by the Nippon TV Network Corps of Tokyo, Japan. Later, he was invited to Japan to make a special guest appearance at the premier showing of the Japanese documentary devoted to American Indians. Another facet of Dixon Palmer's many talents was also revealed in 1973 when he accepted a Commission from the Indian Arts and Crafts Board's Southern Plains Indian Museum and Crafts Center to re-create his own version of the famous Kiowa Tipi of Battle Pictures. This painted tipi was exclusively recreated by Palmer for inclusion of the Museum's special

exhibition, PAINTED TIPIS BY CONTEMPORARY PLAINS INDIAN ARTISTS, which has received national acclaim for the variety and artistry of the painted works of Plains Indian architecture comprising the exhibit. Dixon Palmer was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother and friend. His greatest love was for his family. He was so thankful for all the many blessings God had bestowed on him and his family. He was a member of Saint Patrick's Catholic Church . He leaves a wonderful legacy for his family and will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. He is survived by: one son, Randy Palmer and wife, Glenda of Anadarko, OK, one daughter, Linda Janelle and husband, Jack of Peoples Valley, AZ, four grandchildren, Jeremy Janelle of Phoenix, AZ, Katherine Palmer, Carla Palmer and Dixon Owen Palmer all of Anadarko, OK, six great grandchildren, Seven Janelle of Phoenix, AZ, Justin and Kenzie Hill of Anadarko, OK, Judah and Luke Janelle of Phoenix, AZ and Mikie Janelle of Vail, COL, two sisters, Dorothy Palmer of Anadarko, OK and Lorraine Nicholl of Lawton, OK, Half-brother Victor Palmer of Moore Oklahoma, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends He is preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Chlotiea, who preceded him on Feb. 1, 2011, four brothers, Gus, George, William and Lyndreth, two sisters, Elenor and Mary Ruth, six half brothers, Wilbur, Earl, Penny, Edward, Charles and Caesor and four half sisters, Millie, Martha, Lucy and Clara McConie. Prayer Service: 7:00 P. M.- Monday, March 7, 2011 Smith Funeral Chapel Service: 10:00 A. M.- Tuesday, March 8, 2011 Saint Patrick's Catholic Church Officiating: FR. K. Chinnapa Reddy Burial in Memory Lane Cemetery, Anadarko, OK under the direction of Smith Funeral Home- Anadarko, OK

Tribute Wall

NB

“ So sorry to hear about the loss of Dixon. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Nic, Latisha, Seven & Abbey Bjone - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ so sorry to hear about you loss my thoughts and prayers are with your family

mr & mrs wayne bolton - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ So very sorry to hear of your loss. My Love and Blessings go out to all of you at this time.

Carol Dzurella Barker - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

EP

“ Thoughts and Prayers to all the Family

Emily Palmer - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Uncle Dixon was a true Blessing to us. We will miss him, but we know he is now with the Lord and the love of his life, Aunt Chlotia! Rest in Peace Uncle Dixon, you touched so many lives and we all have great memories of You!

Lynda DeLaune - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ We are grateful the Lord blessed our people with such an honorable man. Our prayers. Love and respect.

Keith and Davetta Domebo - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ We lost a champion today. A beautiful Kiowa warrior. Such a smile, to light our whole world. We Kiowa, have been blessed like many of our people with brave and honorable warriors. Gkou-Gku have been smiled upon by Dah-Gkee with beautiful sons, with gracious hearts, who know and honor tribal relations and traditions. In their knowing we became stronger, are stronger as a people. We mourn our emptiness Uncle Dixon's leaving creates, because we have walked in the light of the beauty of his soul. Our days to serve him and those like him who have gone ahead, those days, have passed, and that gift will be missed. Redstone lies in stillness, Now let the heavens dance.

Garrick and Deborah Cocker and family - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ So long great warrior ... no more battles to fight, but you have plenty of people waiting for you to tell them your stories. Love you Uncle Dixon

Dana D'Zurella - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ Sending our sincere condolences and prayers to the Palmer Family; we cherished Uncle Dixon and we will miss him. May DawKee bless each and every one of you. Andy, Cheryl, Leonard Keith and John Belo Cozad

Cheryl Emhoolah-Cozad - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ *sendind prayers ur way....*

Amanda cross - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ *Our prayers are with the family and the Kiowa people*

Glenda Ahhaitty - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *Our deepest condelences and heartfelt prayers to the Dixon Palmer Family.*

Cletis & Gayle Satepauhoodle/ Arvo & Tracey Mikkanen Families - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ *Our dear family loss a wonderful man.. we know you are in a better place and enjoying the wonderful company of aunt chlotia, great grandma and grandpa and your brothers and sisters.. the last Palmer Brother went on his last journey..we will always love you and definately miss you uncle dixon....*

Shauna White - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MI

“ *Our days go by so very quick, the loss of loved ones measure this so. What day it will be when will all meet again, dancing with the sun and the wind upon our face. Joyous days are near. Much Love to my family. "No one is so brave that he is not disturbed by something unexpected."*

MissWorm - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ My heart is with all of you there who mourn today. I don't possess the words to adequately express what is in my heart or to provide any comfort. We mourn with you. I know that Dixon now resides in eternity and is in the presence of the CREATOR of all things, full of happiness and joy. I know that his life has touched people of many tribes and races. We Kiowas are poorer and more pitiful since he has been called home to glory. Dixon is representative of another time, another generation. My family here will be praying for you all there that you will have all the strength needed to get through these difficult days and that you will have comfort when you sleep.

Daron Ahhaitty - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ My heart goes out to all my family for the loss of a wonderful man...my Uncle Dixon.

Chris, Melissa (Palmer) and Madeline Elder - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ My family and I want you to know that we are very aware of this beautiful treasure that has left us.... The Kiowa Tribe will somehow try to fill the void that your father and grandfather and Uncle - Brother...has left.
We pray and thank the good LORD for blessing the Kiowa Tribe for all of these years , with the Traditional and Cultural wonder of this man - who gave us that legacy to carry on - with the dignity and Honor that he was...A KIOWA WARRIOR...!
God Bless you all family...and know that we share your grief and tears.

Allene Woodard - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ My deepest heartfelt sympathy goes out to the Palmer family. I have many fond memories of Dixon during the Kiowa Black Leggins ceremonies and I will always think of him when I remember those times.

Phillip Roulain - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ My deepest condolences to all of the family, It is never easy to say goodbye. You are never prepared. I pray you receive comfort in knowing that although we will miss him terribly on this side, he had a joyous reunion with his loved ones on the other side. And we too shall see him again. Remember what he has taught you and pass it on. He was a treasure to the tribe. Let us keep his legacy alive. I will miss that wonderful smile. He was always glad to see you. My prayers are with you.

Mary Helen Deer-Smith - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ Love you all. God bless

Lela, Nathan, and Aubrey LaPointe - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Last week I was at the new Native American Building in Washington at the Smithsonian Institute. While my family and I were touring the wonderful exhibit I said to my wife " I know that man from my youth in Anadarko. I remember how people used to gather around him often when I went downtown and he was such a well respected man. " I oversaw the KOA Campground by Indian City for a while later in my life where he gave guided tours. My father knew him very well. My condolences to his family and our prayers are with the family.

Robert Mullican, Sr. - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

NM

“ IN SINCERE SYMPATHY FOR YOUR LOSS. GOD BLESS

NOREEN F. QUETON MORGAN - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ I'm so sorry for the palmer's loss may he rest in peace our prayers go put to u all

marsha and felipe roman - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MI

“ I miss those gone even more today than yesterday! To all my family and freinds, I love you. GOD Bless you and your families. For our times together are so brief.

MissWorm - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ I love you grandpa. You will be greatly missed. Our prayers are with the family. Be proud to be part of a legend...

Jamie Payne - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ I had the Honor & Pleasure of taking Classes with Mr. Palmer while attending good ol RIS 1972-75. He was so soft spoken, humble and so respected from us students, a great human being who will be greatly missed.

Patricia K. Davis - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ I guess the longer we live, the more chances we have to make friends and experience events that will stand out in our life forever. I was told today that one of the Kiowa elders, Mr. Dixon Palmer, had passed away this past Thursday. This brought to my mind an event that took place many years ago. I had always admired and respected the Palmer family, but never had an opportunity to get to know them on a personal basis. One evening, during a dance at a Reservation Wardancer's Annual Pow Wow, I found myself sitting next to Dixon at the drum. I think Buzz Carter was lead singer and several of my brothers were sitting at the drum with my sisters and Mother Pearl sitting behind us. Dixon started a song that I had never heard, it was truly one of the most beautiful songs I've ever heard or have heard since. Once the song ended and the MC was making announcements, I shook his hand and told him how much I truly appreciated being part of a song that beautiful. He smiled and said it was an old song, sang at a slower pace, that just wasn't sung that much. I'll never forget that song or the person who sang it, a truly quality individual, Mr. Dixon Palmer. I'm sure many people, such as myself, have been blessed to know the man. I thank our creator for allowing me to be sitting in that chair on that day. Ah-Ho!

Larry Cole - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Fond Memories of Uncle Dixon. He was such a great and respected leader within our families, and tribe. He served with Honor and dignity in all that he did. He earned respect due to his impeccable life. Such high standards are failing us these days. Men who Served their people without much ado or fanfare. They did not look for attention, attention was given to them by their remarkable lives. God Bless you Randy, Linda and all the family. He will be greatly missed, but never forgotten

DeWitt Domebo - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ *Dixon was always pleasant to be around and was a good uncle to all of us at the Apache Y. We truly loved him and his family. He was a blessing to us all. We would ask God to watch over you all and continue to bless you.*

Henry Ware and family - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ *Blessing to the Palmer Family.*

Terry Ware - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *A gem that has been refined over the years!!! My heart, love and prayers go out to you and your family. A very dear man, honorable, and highly respected by many, many people! Ah-ho Daw-K'gee for having blessed us with this true Great Warrior!
LuLuLuLuLuLuLuLuLu!!!!*

Melanie Campos-Rhoades - August 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM