Order of Service - Book of Alternative Services

Greeting and Welcome

Opening Sentence: 589

Hymm: #66 Cree Book

Eulogy: Peter Constant

Gathering of the Community: 591

The Collect: 577

The Proclamation of the Word:

First Reading: Alison Cook-Personious

Psalm: 23 Jamie Stahl

Second Reading: Julianna Cook

Hymm: God Has Taken an Angel Home

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to:

Reflection: Rev. Flora Young

Prayers of the People: 593

The Lord's Prayer: 594

Hymm: Go Rest High on that Mountain

The Commendation and the Blessing: 595

Hymm: #132

Funeral Service Celebrating the Life of Leslie Lawrence Easter Jr. "Sonny" Saturday, January 11, 2020 1:00 pm Church of the Redeemer, Opaskwayak, MB Presiders: Rev. Flora Young and Rev. Charlie Lathlin





In Loving Memory of Leslie Lawrence Easter Jr. "Sonny"

Leslie Lawrence Easter Jr. AKA Sonny passed away unexpectedly at his residence on January 1, 2020 at the age of 43. Sonny was born in Ashern, MB on October 13, 1976 to Catherine (Partridge) & Leslie Easter. He was the loving father to his three children, Brayden (Chi-Cheech), Merci (Chompeesh) and his baby Trevor (Chimotoyts).

Sonny lived in many places growing up with his parents and siblings before making Opaskwayak Cree Nation his forever home. They lived in Lac Le Biche, Alberta, LaRonge Saskatchewan, Thompson, Manitoba, Prince Albert Saskatchewan and finally Big Eddy, Manitoba where Sonny called home and where he met the mother of his children, Phyllis while going to Joe A. Ross School.

Sonny enjoyed spending his time doing carpentry, as this was his passion. He graduated from University College of the North with his Level 4 Carpentry and was very proud of this accomplishment. He loved spending time with the Big Eddy Boys going hunting and camping to catch game in which they would all share to provide from their families. Occasionally, Sonny would leave OCN to go to Brandon to visit his family and mostly his grandmother. One of his proud accomplishments, was Sonny was an excellent Cree speaker and he was very proud of his language, he would brag that he was the only fluent one in his family. However, Sonny's greatest time was spending that with his children, these children were his life. He would take them swimming at Rocky Lake or Clearwater Lake, sliding at Mile 5 hill, and long walks in the bush, as he wanted them to enjoy nature, as he loved it. He also loved to argue with his mother in law Ida, of course in a joking matter. Leslie voiced his concerns on Aboriginal Justice during the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry. Commission while employed with MKO. He was also the first OCN Jr. Chief.

Sonny loved his family. He was so proud of all his nieces and nephews. When they graduated, he would tell them how proud he was of them. He always had a smile and kind words for everyone. Anyone who knew Sonny knew that you would always hear, "Sonny Easter, that's where it end!" or else, "Live large or don't live at all!"

Sonny is survived by his children, Brayden, Merci and Trevor and by his wife Phyllis Cook. Brothers Henri Easter; Tyrell Kematch, Sister Christina Kematch. Aunties Jenny Wastesicoot (Walter); Kathline Coopman (Kai); Doreen Knight (Bill); Marie Benjamin; Christina Easter; Elizabeth Easter; Uncle; Ricky Easter. Father-in-Law; David Cook (AKA: Cookie); Mother-in –Law Ida Head; Brother-in-Laws: Matthew Cook (Rose); Johnny Cook (Kennedy); Sister-in-Laws: Juliana Cook (Mike); Clarice Cook. Special Auntie and Uncle, Georgina and Phillip Constant; Special in Laws; Margie and Silas Lathlin. Also many nieces, nephews and cousins too numerous to mention.

Sonny was pre-deceased by his father Leslie Easter Sr., mother, Catherine Easter-McLeod; Brother Trevor Easter; Grandfather, Riley Easter.

Awake services will be held at the late Leslie Easter Jr. residence (Sonny) on Thursday January 9, 2020, #4 20-Plex, Opaskwayak Cree Nation at 5:00 pm. Then move to the Margaret Henderson Parish Hall on Friday January 10, 2020. Final viewing will start at 11 am on Saturday January 11, 2020 and service to follow at the Church of Redeemer at 1pm, Opaskwayak Cree Nation and reception to follow in the Margaret Henderson Parish Hall. Cremation to follow and a private family interment will be held at a later date.

Pallbearers:

Gordon "Cheecko" Constant Solomon Constant Terrance Wastesicoot Fred Lathlin Matthew Cook Craig Constant Jeremy Sanderson Kelsey Bighetty

Honorary Pallbearers:

The Big Eddy Boys; Mike Plowman; Family & Friends