



TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION
OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN



EDWARD D. MANUEL
CHAIRMAN

VERLON M. JOSE
VICE CHAIRMAN

O'ODHAM HA-WE:HEJED

"For the People"

Wednesday, Mar. 14, 2018

STATEMENT ON THE PASSING OF CAROLE GARCIA

SELLS, Ariz. – The Executive Office of the Tohono O'odham Nation is deeply saddened to announce the passing of Carole J. "Penny" Garcia.

Carole was crowned as Miss Papago in 1970, and was the first Miss Papago royalty to wear a basket crown. She thought it was a good idea to showcase the Man in the Maze so she made her own crown. She went on to be Miss Indian Arizona in 1971 and Miss National Congress of American Indians in 1972.

A member of the Chukut Kuk District and Tecolote Community, Carole was known to her family by the nickname "Penny." She is the daughter of Esther Johnson, her father is Archie Hendricks, Sr. and her step-father is Wilfred Garcia. Carole grew up with her cousins on the Nation and was raised at San Raphael, Tecolote and St. James by her grandparents. She received her Bachelor's Degree from ASU, attended Oxford University in England, and received her Master's in Public Health from the University of California-Berkley.

Carole worked for 15 years in the public sector in the health and education fields for various tribal organizations. She was also a staff member for the late Chairman Thomas Segundo, Jr.'s administration. In 1986, Carole established Reservation Creations Indian Gift Shop and travelled throughout the U.S. to sell Indian arts and crafts. Carole enjoyed travelling and was able to visit twelve countries

Carole also established a non-profit organization called Reservation Creation Women's Circle Charitable Trust. This organization helped preserve, protect, and promote Native traditions and culture and provided scholarships in western education and traditional Indian teachings to two dozen students.

We offer Carole's family and friends our deepest condolences. Please join us in keeping Carole and her family in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. A viewing and visitation will be held on Friday, March 16, 2018 from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM at the San Xavier Community Building.

Edward D. Manuel
Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation

Verlon M. Jose
Vice Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation

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P.O. BOX 837, SELLS, ARIZONA 85634

PHONE: 520.383.2028

FAX: 520.383.3379