

Services

Sunday, Feb 20, 2022 from 10am-3pm
at Mato Wapiya Sundance Arbor
then move to Wood School Gym
for one night wake through
Monday Feb 21, 2022,
then at 3pm he will be picked up
and taken back for cremation.
Private inurnment at a later date at
Mato Wapiya Sundance
Traditional Prayers by Mike Peters



Pallbearers

Matthew Bueno
Trent Poignee
Willis Dickson, Jr.
Eric Walther
Lee Valandra
Mark Hetzel
Heather Taylor
Leslie Mesteth
Bernice Aguilera-Toney
Adam Clifford
William Montileaux

Mato Wapiya Cikala

Kenneth Dwight Farmer

October 10, 1946 — February 12, 2022

The life of Mato Wapiya Cikala: He loved all people and was compassionate with the Lakota life-ways of which he shared freely. His gift was not closed to one race. His grandpa told him to always help everyone even when he was down, and reminded him, “Remember you said, for your people.” He was born at home in Wood, South Dakota and raised by his grandmother, Nellie Bear Doctor. Mato Wapiya Cikala spoke of his childhood fondly, but also came to understand the forced removal of children from their homes, families forced to relocate, and historical trauma of what it means to live on the reservation. At the age of 44, he began listening to his dreams and found support in Washington state among other tribal nations. He began his own healing journey by helping people. His dream of a Sundance for all the people began with prayers within the inipi’s or sweat lodge. In 1996, he founded the Wynoochee Sundance, which continues to this day. However, his vision was not fulfilled, and he continued his journey to find the space of his dream. Through 30 years of ceremony, he traveled the world across the United States to Canada and Germany to help those who requested prayers from the Mato Wapiya hocoka. He practiced the Lakota ceremony of ‘making relatives’. Wherever he went, he claimed many brothers, sisters and children to be part of his family.

Mato Wapiya Cikala lived a humble way of life, he respectfully and quietly listened to everyone who needed help. He heard their hardships and knew firsthand what they were going through and prayed with them. Mato Wapiya Cikala lived generously, “ta waci waste”, he was kind and never got angry or mean. He went where people needed help and generously shared his thoughts and teachings of the hocoka. He made everyone feel loved and safe. Mato Wapiya Cikala lived with courage, “blihiceyapi” and bravery, “ohitika”. He never showed pain and all that needed to be done, he did himself. If it needed to be fixed, he fixed it. If it needed to be built, he built it. He did what needed to be done and took care of his family, his people and those who asked for help. Mato Wapiya Cikala lived in the way of knowing “Waunsila”, to have compassion. He was always for the people, no matter what they did, no matter who they were, he accepted them.

Mato Wapiya Cikala often spoke at funerals and told of the “Wanagi Canku” and how when we get on the spirit trail, we will see our ancestors and be with our relatives. He would say, “Death is the last ceremony we do for a loved one that’s gone home to the ancestors.” Let’s all help Mato Wapiya Cikala home.

7. Rights of the (pipe)

1. Health - Generation - Help - pity - Quietness - Sacredness - wisdom

4. Gifts every person is born with.

1. prayer - water - Tears - Laughter.

Ceremonies of the sacred pipe

1. Sundance - Vision Quest - Sweat Lodge - Naming - Making Relatives
Throwing Ball - Horse Ceremony

Practices

1. House Ceremony - Sweat (IN PIPE) - Vision Quest - Sundance - Naming.

Vision Quest Alter

4. Flies - Black - Red - Yellow - white = 400 Red with six colors on the end
mole dirt = pipe Rike = Spirit food (Black - Red - yellow - white - Green - blue)
(Died meat)

Alter of the Sacred pipe (spirits)

1. Eagle Bone whistle 2. Black Tail Deer 3. Buffalo Tail 4. 2. Gourds
7 medicines = 7 Tobacco Ties .7 blue 7 Red 7 yellow 7 white
(Earth Diet) Later = black + white bird (Brain + heart) (Magpie)

