Donald Evans Mechals passed away peacefully at the age of 93 on July 11, 2015. He was born to Charles Frederick and Elsie Elena (Petit) Mechals, in Chinook, Washington on October 28, 1921. Don had four brothers; Joseph, Earl “Bud”, Charles and James and two sisters, Lois and Elsie.

Don was the chairman of the Chinook Tribe for 20 years and fought valiantly to get the tribe re-recognized by the Federal Government. He would be pleased to know of the tireless efforts of the current council to keep striving to achieve that goal. He and his brother Charles/Charlie (who was also on the council for many years), traveled to Washington D.C. many years ago to speak with Congressional leaders to bring attention to the injustice that the Chinook people have endured waiting to be re-recognized.

On Fathers Day weekends, after the annual tribal meetings the whole family would get together for a reunion where the salmon and crab seemed to never end and neither did the sharing of memories.

Don and Maxine had two daughters, Sheryl Lynn (married Larry Black) and Susan Dawn (married Todd Wicks). Don is survived by his wife Maxine, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, his brother Jim, his wife Lyola and many wonderful cousins nieces and nephews.

He is missed every day by his family.

Read more at: www.ChinookObserver.com/co/obituaries/20150825/obituary-donald-evans-mechals

Darlene Brueher

This is a message from Councilman Gary Johnson.

I have sad news to send your way. Former Council woman and longtime friend Darlene Brueher passed this morning. She always kept her Bay Center connection and her close friends in Bay Center close to her heart.

I last saw Darlene at our Annual Meeting in South Bend. She was there to support Chinook as she always did. Darlene was very pleased to see Tony (Johnson) elected and said she felt very good about the current Tribal Council and the work that is being done.

Darlene’s family will send us more information as details are worked out. Please keep Darlene, her husband Hank, and the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Darlene's family will send us more information as details are worked out. Please keep Darlene, her husband Hank, and the family in your thoughts and prayers.

How May Chinook Elders Must Pass Before the Chinook Nation Sees Justice?