

Unsung Warriors

As I stand in formation on the 11th of November at the 11th hour, my heart is heavy with emotions and greyness over my memories. For the many Aboriginal/Indians/First Nations and Metis Women and Men that gave their lives for the Quest of Freedom and Safety of our land "CANADA". Freedom for peoples of many Races and Nations to enjoy and to know.

Some Aboriginal service persons did not have the chance to see this "Free Canada". A land they shared, fought and died for. Like the encounter with "Champlain", who was welcomed with open arms and heart by the Indians saying "KANATA" – in Cree language means "clean" – a clean land to share with all peoples and nature.

The freedom of "CANADA" can not only fall on those Aboriginal service persons, who gave their lifestyles and their lives. But also on the many Aboriginal people that couldn't wear the uniform for good reasons. These people are the real "Unsung Warriors". Grandmothers, Grandfathers, Mothers, Children, mainly the spouses and friends that kept the home fires going back home, in Canada. They gave more than has ever been accounted for.

To all these ABORIGINAL PEOPLE, I give an Eagle's Feather. Thank you for keeping me alive and well. Hay Hay.

By: "Shatoes" Don J. Chalifoux, CD. Sgt. (Ret.)

In Loving Memory Of Don (Shatoes) Chalifoux

Born February 16, 1945

Canyon Creek, Alberta

Passed Away November 16, 2004

Edmonton, Alberta