

# *Forever In Our Hearts*

Patricia was predeceased by her son, Herman James Turner; Grand-daughter, Dakota Turner; Parents, Patrick and Harriet McNabb (nee Douglas); Brothers, Bert, Patrick, Norris McNabb; and sister, Mary Rusk (nee McNabb).

Patricia is survived by her husband of 54 years Herman Turner Sr.; children, Farron & Edith Turner (Kevin); Grandchildren, Francine, Darci, Emily, and Eric; Great Grandchildren, Cami, Evander, Jeia, Cynthia, Tricia, Ezra and June; Brother, Rod McNabb Sr.; and Sister, Anne Hudson and many nieces and nephews.

**A celebration of life will be held June 11, 2024  
at 11:00 a.m. in the Chief Peter Beardy Memorial Hall  
located on the Misipawstik Cree Nation.  
(Grand Rapids Manitoba)**

## *Psalm 121*

1 I lift up my eyes to the mountains—  
where does my help come from?  
2 My help comes from the Lord,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.

*Arrangements Entrusted To:*  
**ANDERSON FAMILY FUNERAL HOME**  
*Ashern, Manitoba 204-768-3606*



## *Patricia Leona Turner*

*February 4, 1954 - May 29, 2024*

*In Loving Memory*  
***Patricia Leona Turner***

*February 4, 1954 - May 29, 2024*

*It is with great sadness that the Turner family announces  
the passing of Patricia Leona Turner (nee McNabb).  
Patricia passed away on May 29, 2024.*

Born on Misipawstik Cree Nation, February 4, 1954, Patricia came from a long line of hereditary chiefs, destined to be a strong Cree woman, who had a great impact on her family, community and First Nations within Manitoba.

At the age of 4 Pat was flown to the Birtle Indian Residential School where she spent a few years was then transferred to the Dauphin residential school. Pat spent a total of 10 years in residential school. Upon her return home she met her siblings which she did not know. At this time Pat met the love of her life, Herman Turner, they were married in 1970 and had 3 children: Herman James, Farron and Edith.

Being a teenage mother of 3, Pat managed to obtain a high school diploma. In 1977 Pat was employed by Misipawstik Cree Nation as a Band Administrator, while continuing studies in business administration and aboriginal studies at University of Manitoba. With this knowledge Pat was able to see the detrimental effects of poor economic development and governance that was to discourage the creation of small business and entrepreneurship in her community. As a Band Administrator, and later as a Local Government Advisor for the Swampy Cree Tribal Council, Pat watched as outside contractors came into First Nation communities and benefited from opportunities that local people and businesses should be enjoying. With a few local families enjoying a short-term paycheck while projects were being constructed, true economic benefit was flowing out of the community.

In 1985, Pat became the chief of Misipawstik Cree Nation. After one term as Chief Pat felt there had to be a better way to help the community. Pat then became the Executive Director/Grand Chief of the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak. After Pat's term at MKO, Pat went on to work for the federal government in various department including Indian Affairs and Employment and Immigration.

Pat was now sure that real change had to come through private enterprise with a commitment to playing an active role in community development. In 1985, with one truck and loader, Mr. Turner had been working as a small contractor on a few construction jobs within the Grand Rapids area. With Pat leaving the Federal government after 12 years of work and a desire to help the community, Pat and Herman joined forces and in 1990, E. T. Trucking was formed.

With Pat at the helm, the Turner family's business interest started to grow. This included Triple T Repair Service Inc, E.T. Contracting Inc., E.T. Development and Triple T Cabins.

Being the entrepreneur and business leader, Pat, served on Premier Gary Doers Aboriginal Economic Development advisory committee. Which she then helped form the Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce and served as the first president. This led to other boards which includes Manitoba Heavy Construction Association from 2010 to 2018, University College of the North.

In 2004 Patricia was voted unanimously as the Chairperson of the Board for The First Peoples Economic Development Growth Fund by the Province of Manitoba and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs. The values of the FPEDGF were Pat. She enjoyed meeting and mentoring younger First Nation Entrepreneurs and their successes.

There wasn't a box big enough to contain Patricia and her thoughts. Pat was a trailblazer, pioneer, visionary leader in all things business related. She received business awards from aboriginal business group over her leadership of E. T. Development. Pat received the Aboriginal Business Leadership Award from the Asper School of Business.

Manitoba Hydro sent letters of appreciation for the work done by E. T. Development. Pat continued to build upon and develop a positive relationship with Manitoba Hydro.

Throughout the years Pat was able to grow the business to its success that it is today. Passing on to her children and grandchildren a strong work ethic. Pat instilled great values in her children, demanded nothing less. Pat instilled the value of education in the grandchildren. Pat had a love of travel, would often take the grand children and encourage them to see the world. Places like Disney World, Hawaii and Mexico and of course LAS VEGAS!