

NANCY ANDERSON BIO

Nancy Anderson was born June 21, 1929 in a cottage settlement near Indian River in Sitka, Alaska. Following many years of Alaska Native Service (now known as the Bureau of Indian Affairs) boarding school, Nancy graduated with Mt. Edgecombe boarding school's first graduating class on May 21, 1948.

Having lost both parents in adolescence, Nancy visited Chignik, Alaska on invitation from school friends soon after her graduation. While there, she worked at a local cannery. In 1949, at the age of 20, Nancy moved to Kodiak. From 1970 to 1980, Nancy spent ten summers fishing at Uganik Bay, running her own fishing permit and camp her last two summers there.

An original shareholder of Natives of Kodiak, Inc., Nancy served on NOK's Board of Directors for thirty-two years, from 1973 to 1984 and again from 1986 until the time of her passing. Ten of those years, Nancy served as Board Chairperson.

A regular attendee of Alaska Federation of Natives Conventions for nearly 40 years and a nominee for AFN's 2007 Elder of the Year, Nancy was an active participant in Native groups including the Alutiiq Heritage Foundation the Alaska Tribal Council, the Kodiak Area Native Association, Koniag, and the Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak.

Nancy passed away on October 6, 2007 at the age of 78, following a brief illness.

In reflecting on Nancy's contributions, former NOK President and CEO Tony Drabek said, "Nancy exemplified a life lived well. Her contributions are immeasurable. Nancy will long be remembered for her dedication to Natives of Kodiak and its shareholders and she is dearly missed."