

*Roderick Bernard HighElk, 77, of White Earth, MN passed away on January 19, 2021 at his home surrounded by his family.*

Roderick HighElk was born on December 23, 1943 in Omaha, NE, to Isaac HighElk and Adelia (ThinElk) HighElk Longfox. Roderick earned his associates degree from Haskell Institute in Lawrence, KS. He served in the United States Army Special Forces as a sergeant first class during the Vietnam War.

Roderick was united in marriage to Joyce Hanks in 1968 in Becker County, MN. Roderick worked in Indian Education and for the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council. He also participated in the White Earth Ogitchidaa Society. He enjoyed going to the casino, pow-wows, rodeos, and playing bar bingo.

Roderick is survived by his wife of 52 years Joyce; his daughters Audra (Joe) Tonihka of Ogema, MN, and Autumn HighElk of White Earth; his grandchildren Sequoyah, Adrianna, Quanah, Danielle, Justina, Nathan, and Justin Jr.; his great-grandchildren Navionna and Baby Bear; his siblings Ramona (Jim) Fisher of Bismarck, ND, Doris (Tom) RedBird of Bismarck, ND, Alvin HighElk of Bismarck, ND, Goldie Stroup of Parker, AZ and Ali Gomez of Lake Havasu, AZ.

Preceding Roderick in death are his parents Isaac HighElk and Adelia Longfox; his brothers Fredrick HighElk, Marvin HighElk, Keith HighElk, Luvern HighElk and Moses HighElk.

A special thank you to his wife Joyce, granddaughters Adrianna and Justina, and Hospice of the Red River Valley for caring for Rod at home.

*In Loving Memory of*

**Toka Ole**



Care for my children and grandchildren  
Wakan Tanka I know you will  
you had a son you loved  
and love him still.

Care for my children and grandchildren  
Wakan Tanka, I must be  
gone for a while.

They need a Father's  
love and gentle smile.  
They loved good times  
with me and now those  
days are gone.

But good days again will  
be when we are together  
Father, children, and grandchildren forever.

Wakan Tanka, remember  
my children, grandchildren and me.

Ate miye yelo  
pila maya ye

*In Loving Memory of*  
**Roderick “Toke Ole”  
Bernard HighElk**

December 23, 1943—January 19, 2021



**Traditional Service**

Saturday, January 23, 2021 - 10:00 AM  
White Earth Community Center  
White Earth, Minnesota  
Robert Roy, *Officiating*

**Pallbearers**

Sequoyah Tonihka, Quanah HighElk-Tonihka, Nathan Richey,  
Justin HighElk, Thomas RedBird, Wakiza YoungBird

**Honorary Pallbearers**

Merlin Londo, John L. Sullivan, Lorelei Morales, Mickey Hodges  
And all his Brothers in Arms

**Spring Interment**

Calvary Cemetery  
Ogema, Minnesota