

Robert Strong Jr., (Magee-Macoons) 77, of Nett Lake, passed away Monday, Feb. 13, 2012 in the Cook Nursing Home. He was born in Nett Lake on March 5, 1934 to Robert Jenery Strong Sr. and Annie (Goodsky) Strong. He was a lifelong Nett Lake resident. Robert had been an employee of Diamond Match Company for many years. He enjoyed making dream catchers and had made hundreds of them. He was a former Spiritual Advisor and Medicine Man and was a Host Drummer and Drum Keeper for the Bois Forte Band. Robert taught native language at several community colleges and had given talks about native ways. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary (Woodenfrog) Strong; son, Bruce Smith; and siblings, Russell Strong, Wesley Strong, Nora Berlien, Izola Shouts, Ruth Unger, Thelma Dziuk and Maureen Daly. He is survived by sisters, Hazel Strong of Cloquet, Dorothy Strong of Nett Lake, Betty Amitrano of Ely, Loretta (Axel) Holmes of Nett Lake, June Osborne of Ely and Edith Bouges of Minneapolis; grandchildren, Amanda Smith, Mary Smith, Jessica Smith and Branden (Arlana) Smith; and 54 nieces, nephews and cousins. Visitation will begin at 4 PM Wednesday, Feb. 15, in the Nett Lake Community Center, where Traditional Tribal rites will be at 10 AM Thursday, Feb. 16. The spiritual advisor will be Gilbert Smith and the assistant spiritual advisor will be Gene Goodsky. Burial will be in Woodenfrog's Cemetery, Nett Lake. Funeral arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.