Eulogy for a Veteran

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
    I am not there, I do not sleep
I am a thousand winds that blow,
    I am the diamond glint on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
    I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you wake in the morning hush;
    I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circling flight.
    I am the soft starlight at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry.
    I am not there, I did not die.

- Anonymous
Franklin “Frank” Young Bear was born on February 5, 1966 to Curtis and Marie (Snow) Young Bear. He was the youngest of 8 children and the baby of the family. Frank grew at McKenzie Bay, 18 miles west of Mandaree, ND, swimming in the river, fishing, horseback riding out in the country, riding the bus to Mandaree School, and many outdoor activities, name it, he did it.

His beloved Grandma Ruth was at his high school graduation.

In school, Frank excelled in track and basketball. His nick name was “grasshopper” as he liked to jump high and shoot.

After graduation, Frank enlisted in the United States Marine Corp. While in the service, he was awarded 3 times for Rifle expert, Good Conduct medal, and national defense service medals.

After his military service, he travel around the west coast and Hawaii, then returned home to Mandaree. When his mother, Marie, passed away in October of 2002, Frank became caretaker to his father, Curtis until he passed away in 2010.

He was friendly, kindhearted uncle to many relatives, nieces, and nephews, enjoyed outings with friends, and preferred the quite life of a small community. Frank was a very private and shy person; he liked looking on at events but not crowds of people for long. His door was always open to all of his relatives. He was an old school type; he did not like to ask for help.

Franklin “Frank” passed away peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, February 2, 2020, at the Trinity Health, Minot, ND.

He is survived by: his sisters, Fayetta Young Bear, Mavis (Ron) Stiffarm, and Catherine Smith; his brothers, Curtis Maynard (Terri) Young Bear, Ronald (Cecelia) Young Bear, Clinton (Sherry) Young Bear, and Clayton Young Bear.

He was greeted in heaven by his mom, Marie, his dad, Curtis, grandma Ruth, and all his relatives.