Virginia Irving

Virginia Young Dog Irving has lived in Denver since 1979. She has been on the Denver March Powwow Board of Directors since 1990. She has chaired three different committees--Community Services and Demographics--and currently is the Chair of the Sales Committee.

Virginia was married to Wendell Irving for 27 years. Wendell passed away in August, 2008. They raised ten children. Virg has 10 grandchildren of her own and 6 from her nieces. Virg's son-Dion is the oldest, next Quentin (Brianna), then Travis (Daniel) daughter Angel (Wesley, Lauren, Kristina and Makaju), next Erica (Sophie and Wendell), and Dolly (Calvin and Phoebe), niece-Bernadette (Bobby, Jayden, and Davion), niece-Anna (Shaulyn), niece-Latoya (Eli and Jacob) and great-niece Manuella is the youngest. Virg is a very proud mother and grandmother.

Virg's oldest daughter Angel Young Dog passed away in December, 2012 and niece-Anna Roan Eagle passed away in February, 2013, within 33 days of each other. The year a Memorial Contest for Jingle Dress Dancers (30-40 yrs. old) will be sponsored in memory of Angel and $500 add-on to Teen Girls Northern Traditional in memory of Anna. At the 2015 powwow a Memorial Contest will be held for Anna and $500 add-on to Teen Girls Jingle in memory of Angel.

Virg attended Oglala Community School throughout her school years. When she moved to Denver she attended LaVonne's Beauty Academy, Parks Jr. College and Community College of Denver. She has worked for Sears (Finance Department); Denver Indian Center (Child Care Program); US West Communications (Payroll Department). She has been employed since February 1996 at the Denver Health Medical Center in the Patient Accounts Department as Revenue Cycle Specialist.

Virg was born and raised on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. She is an enrolled member of the Oglala Lakota From the Pine Ridge Agency. She is the youngest daughter of Amos and Dora (Around Him) Young Dog. She has seven brothers--Verdell, Seymour, Marvin, Amos Jr., Myron Shields and the late Gary Young Dog and Lester Young Dog and two sisters Nancy Rouillard and the late Irene Roan Eagle.