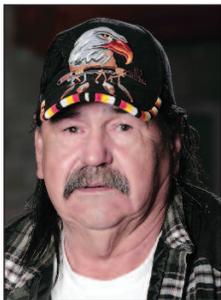


Squaxin Island Tribe Announces Passing of Longtime Tribal Chairman David E. Lopeman



David E. Lopeman

David E. Lopeman, longtime Chairman of the Squaxin Island Tribe, passed away peacefully on January 9, 2019 at his residence in Kamilche, WA. He was 75.

Lopeman served on the Squaxin Island Tribal Council for 30 years, 24 of those years as the Tribal Chairman. He fought for tribal fishing rights as far back as the late 1960s and was first elected to Tribal Council in 1981. He led the Squaxin Island Tribe through turbulent times working with federal, state, and local

governments to uphold federal treaty rights and responsibilities.

During his tenure on the Tribal Council, the tribe saw an enormous amount of growth in enterprises and services to the people. This success spilled over onto the local communities of Mason and Thurston Counties as well. Squaxin Island Tribe became the largest employer in Mason County, Fire Station #4 was constructed, all Mason County police cars were fitted with defibrillators, and Arcadia boat launch was reconstructed with additional parking open to the public.

Lopeman was at the helm during planning and construction of the Squaxin Island Tribal Center and elders building, Little Creek Casino Resort, the Sally Selvidge Health Center, the Squaxin Island Museum Library and Research Center, the

Squaxin Island Child Development Center and Veterans Memorial, and Skookum Creek Tobacco Factory.

He was also Chairman during the implementation of the shellfish ruling, and repatriation laws, the transition into tribal self-governance, tribal/state tax agreements, resurgence of Canoe Journeys, development of Northwest Indian Treatment Center, and expansion of Island Enterprises and its many branches of business.

One of Lopeman's main priorities was increasing the tribal land base. Hundreds of acres have been added since 1981, including Church Point, where the Indian Shaker Church originated. As Lopeman went about his council work, he would often mention that he hoped future generations would look back and say, "I'm sure glad they did that."

Lopeman was instrumental in forging the only agreement in the country between a Native American tribe and a state government that allows Native American inmates to pay last visits to family members who are passing away and attend their funerals under tribal jurisdiction.

Lopeman was born in Shelton on September 27, 1943 to Ernest (Osage) and Mary Whitener Lopeman (Squaxin Island). He was raised and lived most of his life in Kamilche. He married the love of his life, Shirley Ann Rogers, in 1967.

Lopeman was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Shirley; and granddaughter, Cynthia. He was laid to rest at the Squaxin Island Tribe Sacred Grounds, next to his wife and granddaughter. ♣

to the project. He also enlisted in the U.S. Army National Guard an Infantry paratrooper. After a decade in Ohio, he moved to Southern California and landed the newly initiated sommelier job at Pechanga.

"I am so grateful and appreciative," said Amodeo. "It's my goal to work in concert with the robust food and beverage team, and bring real value to them and to the myriad of guests looking to increase their familiarity with wines." He looks forward to working with wineries in the Temecula Valley Wine Country to help elevate their profile, and is excited to be a part of this burgeoning wine and tourism region.

Scott Brewer Appointed Chair of Indiana's Native American Indian Affairs Commission

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians recently announced that Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb has appointed Scott Brewer as Chair of the state's Native American Indian Affairs Commission. His term on the commission will last through December 31, 2022.

Brewer, a Pokagon citizen who lives in Granger, Indiana, is Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Community Relations, and Security with the Pokagon Band and

Four Winds Casinos. He served in the United States Air Force for more than 27 years, attaining the rank of Chief Master Sergeant prior to his retirement. Brewer has served the tribe as chairman of both the Ogitchedaw Veterans Board and of the Health Board.

The Indiana Native American Indian Affairs Commission studies and makes recommendations to appropriate federal, state and local governmental agencies in areas of concern to the state's native and non-native people. The objectives are to bring the native community together, help identify and provide opportunities to Native American people, and enhance social, cultural, community and economic development in Indiana. The areas of focus identified by Indiana State Statute include employment, education, civil rights, health and housing.

"The commission's objectives align very well with the Band's seven grandfather teachings and with Governor Holcomb's five legislative pillars," said Brewer. "I look forward to working with state officials to improve the lives of native people in Indiana."



Scott Brewer