

### Memorial Service

Monday, November 2, 1998 @ 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., Family Living Center

Opening Words & Prayer: Mr. Warren Matte  
Service Coordinated by: Mr. Tony Woods & Mr. Ali Zaid  
Opening Honor Song: Loud Thunder Singers  
Public Eulogies begin @ 6:50 p.m.  
\*Speakers upon invitation by the Gopher Family only

### Prayer & Formal Eulogy

Loud Thunder International, Inc.  
Tuesday, November 3, 1998, Family Living Center 11:30 p.m.,  
Honor Song: Loud Thunder Singers, 1:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, November 3, 1998

### Graveside Services

Highland Cemetery, Great Falls MT, Tuesday, November 3, 1998 @ 2:00 p.m.  
Sacred Pipe Ceremony Officiated by Traditional Elder  
Memorial Honor Song: Chief Rocky Boy's Song, Loud Thunder Singers  
Pallbearers: **Warren, Matte**, Ft. Belknap, MT, **Ali Zaid**, Boulder, CO,  
**Norman Chase**, Ft. Belknap, MT, **Ric Valois**, Sun River, MT,  
**Videl Stump**, Rocky Boy, MT, **Joseph Azure**, Ft. Belknap, MT,  
Honorary Pallbearer: **Norman LeTempt**

### Memorial Feast & Closing Prayer

Tuesday, November 3, 1998 4:00 p.m., Family Living Center  
Officiated By: Mr. Warren Matte

*The Gopher Family extends our deepest gratitude to all who  
have expressed their love to our Father in his departure*

### In Remembrance



Robert Gopher  
Listening Thunder  
Nov. 17, 1929-October 30, 1998



## **"Listening Thunder"**



### **Robert Gopher**

**Born November 17, 1929**

**Departed October 30, 1998**

### **1994 Account of Spiritual Vision of Robert Gopher**

In a vision received by Robert Gopher, "Listening Thunder" in time of illness, he related to his grandchildren and children present: "Guided by a spiritual being, I visited the Spirit World of Souls where my family were all standing and waiting for me as I approached. My Father stood in front and center of all of them, they were excited and overjoyed to see me, my Mother and Sisters were crying with joy to see me. My Relations were reaching out their hands to greet me."

"I approached them and stood face to face with them, at our feet was a line separating them and me. These souls, my relations, were told by the spiritual being that I could not cross the line and they could not cross the line, not to touch me or even to shake my hand. The feeling I had was the intense love my family possessed for me. This is such a good place, the goodness of the Spirit World is unimaginable. It is as if you do not want to leave."

"Here on Earth, a human is confronted with the tremendous evils and moral ugliness that are human created. The devastation of alcohol and drugs creates sorrow and lack of compassion. We suffer from lack of worship and belief in the Creator. Understanding was given to me of how a human must prepare for their departure to the Spirit World. This preparation begins when one is a child and continues on everyday for a lifetime. To be a good human for a lifetime is most essential preparation."

"When a lifetime has transpired in this manner, it cannot be undone. Your path to the Spirit World is easy. Prayers are reserved for your loved ones, the earthly survivors. At the point of departure, prayers are not needed if you have prepared accordingly. Prayers will do a person no good if they have not lived to prepare for their departure by doing good deeds in their earthly life. It is important to live your life in the best way possible because the Spirit World is where you remain forever."

"I told my Relations that I had to return to my earthly life and I had things to do, I have to go. They began to cry as I left them."

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### **Traditional Ojibwa Ceremonial Wake**

**4:00 p.m. Sunday, November 1, 1998, - 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 3, 1998, Family Living Center**

Origin of the traditional wake: In the days of Ojibwa ancients, a four day wake was held for the departed because at times, the deceased would come back to life. The four day waiting period was intended to prevent family members from burying the deceased prematurely. It is said after four nights, the family knew for sure the departed had journeyed to the Spirit World. The tradition of the wake remains.