

Shirley Colleen Smith Biography

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Shirley Colleen Smith is a proud First Nation Australian. Shirley is known because of her amazing acts for the community, she is a big help and establisher for the Aboriginals around her. Her occupation is a humanitarian activist and social worker. She does this job because she was interested in helping children as an adult.

Early life and her family

Shirley's life started off with her being born on Erambie Mission in Wiradjuri, a country near Cowra in NSW, 1921. Her guardians are Joseph and Isabel, she had two siblings named Harriet and Joe. She didn't attend any schools because she had epilepsy (a disorder which causes seizures and messes with your brains.) Instead of going to school, her grandad taught her, she also got to know 16 different Aboriginal languages. Majority of her younger life isn't specified.

Adult hood

As an adult she moved to Kempsey on the NSW coast to live with her husband's family while she was pregnant, however when she gave birth she returned to Sydney. Shirley had two jobs, a humanitarian activist and social worker. A humanitarian activist is where they engage in promoting human well fair and saving lives. Shirley was a kind and influential person in the community.

Life Highlights

Shirley had some great highlights of her life. Something is getting her nickname "Mum Shirl." This happened by her brother going to jail, she would visit him occasionally and the prisoners would enjoy her company. Soon after she was allowed to visit any prisoners she wanted. Authorities would often ask her, "what relationship do you have to this prisoner?" She would say she's their mum, that's how she got known as "Mum Shirl."

Conclusion

Through out Shirley's life she followed all her dreams in loving children. She was a very inspiring person for her community. In 1979 she got awarded "Parent of the Year," I understand why. Now she sadly passed away due to a bad car crash in 1998. She was an influential person.