



MHA Women's History Month 2019

Marilyn Hudson

Marilyn was born in Elbowoods to Dorothy (Bartell) and Martin (Old Dog) Cross. It was during the Depression and Dust Bowl years and times were tough for everyone. After graduating high school, Marilyn graduated from Haskell Institute's business program. She began her career at the Fort Berthold Agency and then worked for the US Air Force, San Jose Relocation Office, and Social Services. After retiring, Dr. Wilson approached her about doing some work with the museum. She spent the next twenty-two years working (mostly volunteering) at our tribal museum where she was able to research and learn so much about the history of our reservation. Her father was tribal chairman during the Garrison Dam negotiations and left his collection of papers to the museum. Marilyn believes it is important to pass on this history to younger generations. "We need to record where we lived, who our neighbors were, where we went to school, who our teachers were, who our classmates were, how we survived the long cold winters, how we raised our own food and took care of the horses and cattle and many, many other everyday life experiences. We need to describe what the land looked like, every hill and coulee and every creek and spring. Everybody has their own story to tell—none are the same. Now is the time to tell that story."

