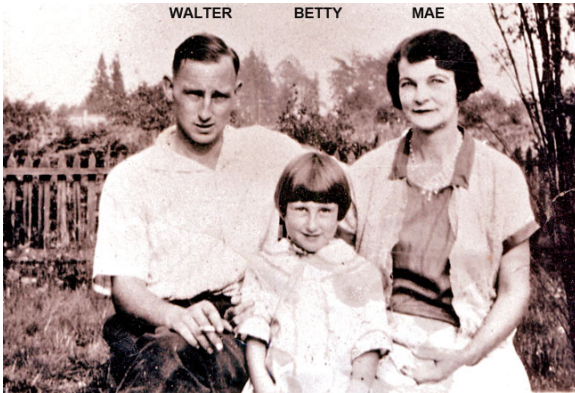


Indigenous Peoples Day 2021  
Romana 10-11-2021



My native heritage was a well-kept secret that no one talked about for decades. Walter was my mother's father. Mae was Walter's mother. I don't know much of the details. People say that Mae was part native, and her first husband looked like an Indian brave. She lived with the Chippewa in Wisconsin. At some point, she and my grandfather moved to Washington State, where my mother was born.

I should have bought my mother a DNA test before she died, so I only have my DNA test to go by. The basic test does not show any native DNA, but this is a touchy subject. Since my father's parents came from Finland, my DNA is loaded with Nordic markers. However, I strangely also have Irish, British, German, and French markers from the Midwest. I have concluded that these markers are from frontiersmen who married native women.