

LYNDA ELLIOT SPICKARD, JULY 14, 1944 - AUGUST 10, 1999

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Lynda Elliot Spickard, an Andean archaeologist much beloved by her many colleagues, died on August 10, 1999 after a twenty-year ordeal with cancer. She will be remembered by the Andean archaeological community for her

devotion to field-work and the prehistory of the Americas, strong interest in the interpretation of monumental Andean architecture, and fascination with the rich cultures of Latin America, both past and present. Lynda will also be

remembered as a strong supporter of her anthropologist colleagues and their work.

Lynda was born in San Francisco on July 14, 1944, and was raised in Seattle, with three younger brothers and one sister. In the Pacific Northwest she learned to ski as a toddler and began mountain climbing at age four. She vigorously pursued these and other outdoor sports her entire life, following the footsteps of her father, Warren B. Spickard, a noted physician and outdoorsman who perished in a mountain climbing accident in 1961.

As a teenager, Lynda's academic goals were inspired by anthropology and archaeology, and she followed these fields of study at Colorado College, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology in 1966. While an undergraduate she participated in the University of Washington's Summer Institute in Linguistics (1965), and undertook archaeology field work as a Research Assistant for Colorado College's Archaeological Survey of Mesa de Mayo in Colorado (1966). In the years immediately following, Lynda served on several archaeological teams for projects sponsored by Colorado College and the University of Colorado (Boulder) at Nunivak Island, Alaska, and Greeley and Chimney Rock, Colorado. Lynda completed her Master of Arts in Anthropology at the University of Colorado (Boulder) in 1971 and enrolled in the University's Ph.D. program.

Teaching was one of Lynda's great loves in life. After serving as a teaching assistant at the University of Colorado College (Boulder), she held lecturing positions at Colorado College and the University of Colorado (Colorado Springs). Lynda's affiliation with the now-defunct Wright-Ingraham Institute in Colorado Springs began in 1972 when she joined the faculty. The Wright-Ingraham Institute had been established in March 1970 by a group of scholars and artisans to promote, direct, and encourage the conservation, preservation, and use of human and natural resources. By 1971 the first project, Running Creek Field Station, Colorado, had

taken shape. Lynda became the Principal Investigator for the archaeological survey there. She found evidence of Folsom-age occupation, thus pushing back the known use of the area some 8,000 years. Lynda's unpublished reports from this time are among the papers of the Wright-Ingraham Institute archived at the Heritage Center of the University of Wyoming in Laramie.

In 1976, Lynda became Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Museum Director at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, Missouri. Over the next few years she also served as Principal Investigator for cultural resources surveys in Missouri. She returned to Colorado College as a Visiting Professor in 1978, where she taught at the Educational Summer Institute.

Thus, during the 1970s Lynda focused her attention on topics in North American prehistory including coastal adaptations, post-Pleistocene adjustments, and the evolutionary dynamics of nutritional adaptations, particularly in the context of Pacific Northwest Coast environments. Her dissertation research, in progress at the time of her death, addressed methods for modeling nutritional ecology and archaeo-zoological methods of recovering paleo-nutritional information.

Lynda's introduction to Andean archaeology occurred in 1979. Her first trip to Peru was a turning point in Lynda's life because it opened the door to a new realm of research that quickly became her life's passion. In that year Lynda joined the Huari Urban Prehistory Project in Ayacucho as a Research Assistant. The project director, William H. Isbell of the State University of New York-Binghamton, encouraged Lynda's burgeoning interest in Andean studies, and in 1980 she returned to Huari as Assistant Director of the SUNY-Binghamton archaeological Overseas Program in Peru. She also served as Assistant Director of the Huari project's Moraduchayuq Temple Excavation, sponsored by the National Geographic Society.

While continuing to work on her North American dissertation research during the 1980s, Lynda developed a specialization in Andean archaeology as well. Her theoretical interests focused on the development of urbanism and state government, and corresponding architectural forms at Huari. She investigated these topics in a series of seven papers (1982-1991) presented at meetings of the Society for American Archaeology, the International Congress of Americanists, the American Anthropological Association, The Society for Applied Anthropology, and the Northeast Conference on Andean Archaeology and Ethnohistory. Lynda's published works on administrative architecture at Huari appear in *Investigations of the Andean Past*, and in *Dialogo Andino*, as well as in a major Dumbarton Oaks volume (Spickard 1983, 1985; Isbell et al. 1991).

With the Sendero Luminoso-Tupac Amaru civil war in Peru during the 1980s, archaeological research in the highlands was suspended. Lynda returned to the USA, establishing residence in Binghamton, New York. Lynda held several appointments at SUNY-Binghamton in the early 1980s, including Research Associate in Anthropology, Assistant Professor of Career and Interdisciplinary Studies, and Staff Associate of the Public Archaeology Facility. She also taught anthropology and worked as a grants administrator at Broome Community College before accepting the position of Director of Sponsored Programs at the college, which she held until her death.

Lynda's recent years were dedicated to tireless community service projects, which reflect her deep commitments to society and the protection of the environment, particularly in the Binghamton area and neighboring regions of upstate New York. At her death, she was Secretary of the Board of Governance of the Atlantic Chapter of the Sierra Club, and Chair and Officer of the Susquehanna Group of the Sierra Club. She also served as Director of Planning for the Binghamton-Borovich (Russia) Sister Cities organization and was a Senior Patroller

for the Greek Peak Ski Patrol, a force she served for over 20 years. Lynda also hiked, canoed, and kayaked extensively, particularly in New York State.

A well-seasoned and frequent traveler, Lynda enjoyed visiting new places and cultures around the globe, yet her experiences as an archaeologist in Peru were the most exhilarating and influential in her life. She continued to study Spanish, taking courses and devoting spare time to reading archaeological and literary works until her death. Lynda always carried a deep appreciation for the people of Peru and the rich landscape that is their home.

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Mount Spickard (marked by arrow; 8979 feet; 2737 meters; 48°58'11"N, 121°14'21"W) is in the Chilliwack Range of the North Cascades National Park in Washington State. In the background of this photo, taken looking southwest, are Mount Baker (the highest peak, on the right), and Mount Shuksan just in front of it. Silver Lake is in the right foreground. Mt. Spickard is named for Warren B. Spickard, Lynda's father, and stands as a memorial to their entire family. Photo taken in 1963 by M. Woodbridge Williams, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Negative #63-NOCA-50-W. Photo courtesy of North Cascades National Park.