

My name is John F Stensgar. I am an enrolled member of the Confederated tribes of the Colville Indian reservation. North and raised in the reservation. I am also a Army Veteran.

I've helped raise our two boys, six grandkids and six foster kids. My wife and I have been married for close to 44 years.

I was sent to St Mary's mission in Omak Washington. I was there from 1966 to 1974. Our tribe took over this school in the spring of 1974. Paschal Sherman Indian school now.

To this day this memory haunts me. As a small kid I didn't understand. My female friends there were happy and full of joy. For a day or two after coming out of the priest office they would be quiet and withdrawn. Eventually getting back to themselves again. This happened to them many many times. I had several friends go thru this.

As An adult I know what went on in the office of the priest. He was abusing them. Several years ago a lawsuit was settled because of the abuses of this and other priest at this school.

Still brings tears to my eyes when I remember those days. What was happening to my friend's.

I do have friends for life from this school. All of us kids seem to be friends for life.

Bring us Justice

--

John F Stensgar