DEDICATION

Wilma Louise Bennett

We dedicate this edition of Real Tools in memory of Wilma Louise Bennett. Wilma’s Tlingit name was “Taats” and she was Ishktaan from the “Pool-in-the-River” house of Taku. Wilma served as a strong advocate for recovering women and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and child sexual abuse during her nearly five years with the Training Project at the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Wilma (pictured here far right with Lindsee Acton) was a beloved member of the Juneau community and a vital force behind the development of the Real Tools manual. During her tenure at the Network, Wilma never wavered in her commitment to people who experienced harm at the hands of others and she worked hard to reduce barriers for women and children impacted by multiple forms of abuse.

Throughout Wilma’s long illness she shared her experience, faith and hope with all of us at the Network. Wilma lived every moment. She loved the glacier, her God and her family. She found humor in everything, even during her illness. Wilma was truly the ‘Boss’ and involved with organizing Real Tools (and everything else) until we lost her on January 29, 2011. No doubt she is checking for typos in the sky and putting in a good word to the Angels for the people we serve.

Wilma was born on Nov. 18, 1942, in Juneau. Her parents were William and Beatrice Stoddard. Her brother, Bill, lives in Washington state. Wilma met her true love, Robert J. Bennett, at the Juneau Teen Center in 1964. They were married in 1981. On Sept. 4, 2010, Wilma and Bob celebrated 29 years of marriage. Wilma was loved by all and will be missed by her family, her friends and all of us at the Network.

Ldakát wuháanch,itusixán.

Gunalchéesh yá haa t’èit’ yeeynaagi.

Tsu yéi ikkwasatéen.