



2006 Kokua Awardees:

Edwin Tampos
Hazel Soares
Lono Navarro

The Arizona Polynesian community has lost three people in a very short time. They have impacted us in very different ways, yet all contributed to the rich culture that was a big part of their lives and cherished.

They were here, and then they were gone before we were ready to give them up.

Join us as we remember their contributions:

Edwin Tampos

1948 - 2005

Uncle Edwin came to Phoenix from the state of Washington, where he had also been active in his community. He brought his "traveling" imu, which provided *kalua* pig and turkey for many events.

But we remember him best in his rain cape and playing the nose flute as he reminded us all of the traditions that held us together and the spirit that guides us.



Hazel Soares

1944 - 2005

Auntie Hazel was always found in the middle of a group of people having fun... and usually instigating it. Her smile lit up every room she entered.

She started *Halau Po'okalani* to share her love for the Hawaiian culture. And share they did as she took them to perform at schools and events all over Arizona where they taught as much as they performed.

And no one has yet been able to match her ability to engage a crowd by telling Mother Goose stories in pidgin.

Lono Navarro

1954 - 2005

Lono arrived in Arizona and it was never the same. An avid canoe racer, he decided to start the Na Leo O Ke Kai (The voice of the sea) outrigger canoe club in the middle of the desert, an idea that some thought crazy. Now there are 3 in Phoenix alone.

His love of music brought the first Hawaiian music concerts in the Valley. His love of fun sent the first "Mele Kalikimaka" canoe sailing down Central Avenue in the Fiesta of Light parade.

Lono's aloha spirit sprang from him – no one could meet him without feeling it. He left us with both the spirit of competition and cooperation so that we work together as we strive to achieve the best.

