



**“I retired from teaching,  
but I will never retire from  
working with children.”**



# Pauline Kookesh Duncan

Sitka, Sitka Borough

#### Education Background:

Graduated from Mt. Edgecumbe High School (1965)  
Bachelor of Arts of from Fort Lewis College Durango.

#### Teaching Experience:

Second grade Sitka School District 1970-1971  
Mt. Edgecumbe High School 1972-1985  
Headstart Supervisor 1987-1988  
Chapter One Teacher Baranof School 1988-1989  
First Grade Teacher 1989-2003

#### Awards and Accolades:

Bilingual Educator of the Year (*State Award*)  
Citizen of the Year (*Sitka Tribe of Alaska Award*)  
Presidents Award (*Alaska Federation of Natives State Award*)  
Charlie Joseph Heritage Award (*SheeAtika Corporation*)  
*Certificate of Merit (City of Sitka)*  
*Professional of the Year (Sitka Prevention & Treatment)*

#### Personal Background:

Pauline Kookesh Duncan was born and raised in Alaska. A member of the Eagle Bear Clan and Valley House of Angoon. She is the wife of Al Duncan, mother of five children: Melonie, Lisa, Al, Paul and Crystal Duncan. She is grandmother of eight grandchildren: Mitchell, Alec, Ashton, Marlis, Alyse, Nyla, Tristian, and Emma. Pauline taught first grade in the Sitka Borough School District and retired after 27 years of teaching. She has authored multiple books including: a children's book entitled *Children of the Alaska Tideland*, a history book called *Elizabeth Peratrovich*, and a nature book called *An Alaska Herring Spawn*. She also compiled a cookbook entitled *Tlingit Recipes of Today and Long Ago*, which contains more than 100 traditional recipes and photos of native foods. Pauline earned awards recognizing her for outstanding contributions educating the young and old. Pauline continues to devote time and energy to her family and children in the community of Sitka. Her other hobbies include Ravens Tail and Cedar Bark weaving.



Educator Nomination Submitted by the  
Sitka Future Educators of Alaska Club

Future Educators of Alaska

University of Alaska Office of Academic Affairs  
PO Box 755400 | Fairbanks, Alaska, 99775

907 450 8419 p | 907 450 8401 f | [www.FutureTeachersAlaska.org](http://www.FutureTeachersAlaska.org)